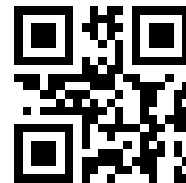


# Dror Bar-Natan — Handout Portfolio

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# Shifted Partial Quadratics, their Pushforwards, and Signature Invariants for Tangles

<http://drorbn.net/usc24>

**Abstract.** Following a general discussion of the computation of zombians of unfinished columbaria (with examples), I will tell you about my recent joint work w/ Jessica Liu on what we feel is the “textbook” extension of knot signatures to tangles, which for unknown reasons, is not in any of the textbooks that we know.



Jessica Liu



Columbaria in an East Sydney Cemetery



Jacobian, Hamiltonian, Zombian

**Kashaev's Conjecture** [Ka]

**Liu's Theorem** [Li].

For links,  $\sigma_{Kas} = 2\sigma_{TL}$ .

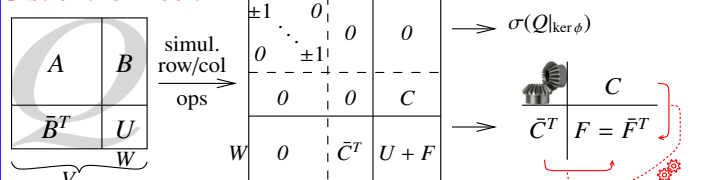
A **Partial Quadratic (PQ)** on  $V$  is a quadratic  $Q$  defined only on a subspace  $\mathcal{D}_Q \subset V$ . We add PQs with  $\mathcal{D}_{Q_1+Q_2} := \mathcal{D}_{Q_1} \cap \mathcal{D}_{Q_2}$ . Given a linear  $\psi: V \rightarrow W$  and a PQ  $Q$  on  $W$ , there is an obvious **pullback**  $\psi^*Q$ , a PQ on  $V$ .

**Theorem 1.** Given a linear  $\phi: V \rightarrow W$  and a PQ  $Q$  on  $V$ , there is a unique **pushforward** PQ  $\phi_*Q$  on  $W$  such that for every PQ  $U$  on  $W$ ,  $\sigma_V(Q + \phi^*U) = \sigma_{\ker \phi}(Q|_{\ker \phi}) + \sigma_W(U + \phi_*Q)$ .

(If you must,  $\mathcal{D}(\phi_*Q) = \phi(\text{ann}_Q(\mathcal{D}(Q) \cap \ker \phi))$  and  $(\phi_*Q)(w) = Q(v)$ , where  $v$  is s.t.  $\phi(v) = w$  and  $Q(v, \text{rad } Q|_{\ker \phi}) = 0$ .)

**Prior Art** on signatures for tangles / braids. Gambaudo and Ghys [GG], Cimasoni and Conway [CC], Conway [Co], Merz [Me]. All define signatures of tangles / braids by first closing them to links and then work hard to derive composition properties.

### Gist of the Proof.



... and the quadratic  $F := \phi_*Q$  is well-defined only on  $D := \ker C$ .

**Exactly** what we want, if the Zombian is the signature!

$V$ : The full space of faces.

$W$ : The boundary, made of gaps.

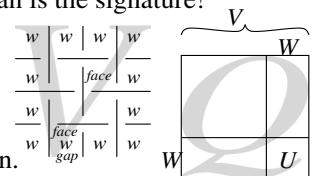
$Q$ : The known parts.

$U$ : The part yet unknown.

$\sigma_V(Q + \phi^*(U))$ : The overall Zombian.

$\sigma(Q|_{\ker \phi})$ : An internal bit.  $U + \phi_*Q$ : A boundary bit.

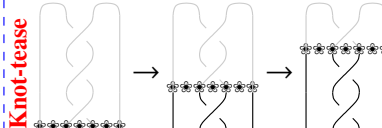
And so our ZPUC is the pair  $S = (\sigma(Q|_{\ker \phi}), \phi_*Q)$ .



### Why Tangles? • Faster!

- Conceptually clearer proofs of invariance (and of skein relations).
- Often fun and consequential:
  - The Jones Polynomial  $\rightsquigarrow$  The Temperley-Lieb Algebra.
  - Khovanov Homology  $\rightsquigarrow$  “Unfinished complexes”, complexes in a category.
  - The Kontsevich Integral  $\rightsquigarrow$  Associators.
  - HFK  $\rightsquigarrow$  OMG, type D, type A,  $\mathcal{A}_\infty, \dots$

$$n/2 \quad n/2 \\ \sqrt{n} \\ 2^{n/2} + 2^{n/2} + 2\sqrt{n} \ll 2^n$$



### Computing Zombians of Unfinished Columbaria.

- Must be no slower than for finished ones.
- Future zombies must be able to complete the computation.
- Future zombies must not even know the size of the task that today's zombies were facing.
- We must be able to extend to ZPUCs, Zombie Processed Unfinished Columbaria!

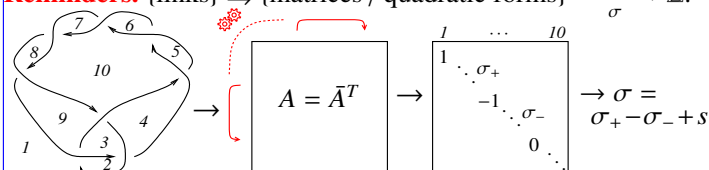


Columbarium near Assen

**Example / Exercise.** Compute the determinant of a  $1,000 \times 1,000$  matrix in which 50 entries are not yet given.

**Homework / Research Projects.** • What with ZPUCs? • Use this to get an Alexander tangle invariant.

**Reminders.** {links}  $\rightleftharpoons$  {matrices / quadratic forms}  $\xrightarrow{\text{signature } \sigma} \mathbb{Z}$ :



A **Shifted Partial Quadratic (SPQ)** on  $V$  is a pair  $S = (s \in \mathbb{Z}, Q \text{ a PQ on } V)$ . addition also adds the shifts, pullbacks keep the shifts, yet  $\phi_*S := (s + \sigma_{\ker \phi}(Q|_{\ker \phi}), \phi_*Q)$  and  $\sigma(S) := s + \sigma(Q)$ .

**Theorem 1' (Reciprocity).** Given  $\phi: V \rightarrow W$ , for SPQs  $S$  on  $V$  and  $U$  on  $W$  we have  $\sigma_V(S + \phi^*U) = \sigma_W(U + \phi_*S)$  (and this characterizes  $\phi_*S$ ).

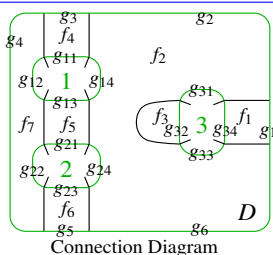
**Note.**  $\psi^*$  is additive but  $\phi_*$  is not.

**Theorem 2.**  $\psi^*$  and  $\phi_*$  are functorial.

**Theorem 3.** “The pullback of a pushforward scene is  $\mu \downarrow \nearrow \gamma$  a pushforward scene”: If, on the right,  $\beta$  and  $\delta$  are arbitrary,  $Y = \text{EQ}(\beta, \gamma) = V \oplus_{\mathbb{Z}} W = \{(v, w) : \beta v = \gamma w\}$  and  $\mu$  and  $\nu$  are the obvious projections, then  $\gamma^*\beta_* = \nu_*\mu^*$ .

**Definition.**  $S \left( \begin{matrix} g_2 \\ g_3 \\ \dots \end{matrix} \right) := \left\{ \begin{matrix} \text{SPQ } S \\ \text{on } \langle g_i \rangle \end{matrix} \right\}$ .

**Theorem 4.**  $\{S(\text{cyclic sets})\}$  is a planar algebra, with compositions  $S(D)((S_i)) := \phi_*^D(\psi_D^*(\bigoplus_i S_i))$ , where  $\psi_D: \langle f_i \rangle \rightarrow \langle g_{oi} \rangle$  maps every face of  $D$  to the sum of the input gaps adjacent to it and  $\phi^D: \langle f_i \rangle \rightarrow \langle g_i \rangle$  maps every face to the sum of the output gaps adjacent to it. So for our  $D$ ,  $\psi_D: f_1 \mapsto g_{34}, f_2 \mapsto g_{31}+g_{14}+g_{24}+g_{33}, f_3 \mapsto g_{32}, f_4 \mapsto g_{11}, f_5 \mapsto g_{13}+g_{21}, f_6 \mapsto g_{23}, f_7 \mapsto g_{12}+g_{22}$  and  $\phi^D: f_1 \mapsto g_1, f_2 \mapsto g_2+g_6, f_3 \mapsto 0, f_4 \mapsto g_3, f_5 \mapsto 0, f_6 \mapsto g_5, f_7 \mapsto g_4$ .



Connection Diagram

With  $|\omega| = 1, t = 1 - \omega, r = t + \bar{t}, v = \text{Re}(\omega),$  and  $u = \text{Re}(\omega^{1/2})$ :

	Tristram-Levine (TL)	Kashaev (Kas)
$X_{-i,j,k,-l}$	$A = \begin{pmatrix} -r & -t & 2t & \bar{t} \\ -\bar{t} & 0 & \bar{t} & 0 \\ 2\bar{t} & t & -r & -\bar{t} \\ t & 0 & -t & 0 \end{pmatrix}$	$A = \begin{pmatrix} v & u & 1 & u \\ u & 1 & u & 1 \\ 1 & u & v & u \\ u & 1 & u & 1 \end{pmatrix}$
$\bar{X}_{-i,j,k,-l}$	$A = \begin{pmatrix} r & -t & -2\bar{t} & \bar{t} \\ -\bar{t} & 0 & \bar{t} & 0 \\ -2t & t & r & -\bar{t} \\ t & 0 & -t & 0 \end{pmatrix}$	$A = \begin{pmatrix} v & u & 1 & u \\ u & 1 & u & 1 \\ 1 & u & v & u \\ u & 1 & u & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

**Theorem 5.** TL and Kas, defined on  $X$  and  $\bar{X}$  as before, extend to planar algebra morphisms {tangles}  $\rightarrow \{S\}$ . Restricted to links,  $TL = \sigma_{TL}$  and  $Kas = \sigma_{Kas}$ .



Levine, Tristram, Kashaev

**Implementation** (sources: <http://drorbn.net/icerm23/ap>). I like it most when the implementation matches the math perfectly. We failed here.

Once[<< KnotTheory`];

Loading KnotTheory` version

of February 2, 2020, 10:53:45.2097.

Read more at <http://katlas.org/wiki/KnotTheory>.

**Utilities.** The step function, algebraic numbers, canonical forms.

$\theta[x\_]$  /; NumericQ[x\_] := UnitStep[x]

```
 $\omega 2[v\_][p\_]$  := Module[{q = Expand[p], n, c},
  If[q === 0, 0,
    c = Coefficient[q,  $\omega$ , n = Exponent[q,  $\omega$ ]];
    c v^n +  $\omega 2[v][q - c (\omega + \omega^{-1})^n]$ ];
```

```
sign[ $\mathcal{E}$ _] := Module[{n, d, v, p, rs, e, k},
  {n, d} = NumeratorDenominator[ $\mathcal{E}$ ];
  {n, d} /=  $\omega^{\text{Exponent}[n, \omega] / 2 + \text{Exponent}[n, \omega, \text{Min}] / 2}$ ;
  p = Factor[ $\omega 2[v]@n * \omega 2[v]@d /. v \rightarrow 4 u^2 - 2$ ];
  rs = Solve[p == 0, u, Reals];
  If[rs === {}, Sign[p /. u -> 0],
    rs = Union@{u /. rs};
    Sign[(-1)^{e=Exponent[p, u]} Coefficient[p, u, e]] + Sum[
      k = 0;
      While[{d = RootReduce[ $\partial_{\{u, ++k\}} p /. u \rightarrow r$ ]} == 0];
      If[EvenQ[k], 0, 2 Sign[d]] *  $\theta[u - r]$ ,
      {r, rs}]]
]
```

SetAttributes[B, Orderless];

CF[b\_B] := RotateLeft[#, First@Ordering[#] - 1] & /@ DeleteCases[b, {}]

CF[ $\mathcal{E}$ \_] := Module[{ $\gamma s$  = Union@Cases[ $\mathcal{E}$ ,  $\gamma$ \_ |  $\bar{\gamma}$ \_,  $\infty$ ]},
 Total[CoefficientRules[ $\mathcal{E}$ ,  $\gamma s$ ] /.
 ( $ps$ \_ ->  $c$ \_)] := Factor[c]  $\times$  Times @@  $\gamma s^{ps}$ ]

CF[{}] = {};

CF[C\_List] :=

```
Module[{ $\gamma s$  = Union@Cases[C,  $\gamma$ _,  $\infty$ ],  $\gamma$ },
  CF /@ DeleteCases[0] [
    RowReduce[Table[ $\partial_{\gamma} r$ , {r, C}, { $\gamma$ ,  $\gamma s$ }]]. $\gamma s$  ]
```

( $\mathcal{E}$ \_)\* :=  $\mathcal{E} /. \{\bar{\gamma} \rightarrow \gamma, \gamma \rightarrow \bar{\gamma}, \omega \rightarrow \omega^{-1}, c\_Complex \rightarrow c^*\}$ ;

r\_Rule\* := {r, r\*}

RulesOf[ $\gamma_i + rest\_.$ ] := ( $\gamma_i \rightarrow -rest$ )<sup>+</sup>;

CF[PQ[C\_, q\_]] := Module[{nc = CF[C]},
 PQ[nc, CF[q /. Union @@ RulesOf /@ nc]] ]

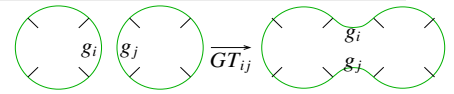
CF[ $\Sigma_b[\sigma_, pq\_]$ ] :=  $\Sigma_{CF[b]}[\sigma, CF[pq]]$

## Pretty-Printing.

```
Format[ $\Sigma_{b_B}[\sigma_, PQ[C_, q\_]]$ ] := Module[{ $\gamma s$ },
   $\gamma s$  =  $\gamma_{\#}$  & /@ Join @@ b;
  Column[{TraditionalForm@ $\sigma$ ,
    TableForm[Join[
      Prepend[""] /@ Table[TraditionalForm[ $\partial_{c,r}$ ],
        {r, C}, {c,  $\gamma s$ }],
      {Prepend[""] [
        Join @@
          (b /. {L_, m___, r_} =>
            {DisplayForm@RowBox[{"(", L}],
              m, DisplayForm@RowBox[{r, ")"}]}) /.
            i_Integer =>  $\gamma_i$  ]},
      MapThread[Prepend,
        {Table[TraditionalForm[ $\partial_{r,c} q$ ], {r,  $\gamma s^*$ },
          {c,  $\gamma s$ }],  $\gamma s^*$ }],
        TableAlignments -> Center]
      ], Center] ];
```

## The Face-Centric Core.

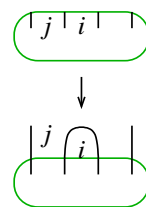
$\Sigma_{b1}[\sigma_1, PQ[C1_, q1\_]] \oplus \Sigma_{b2}[\sigma_2, PQ[C2_, q2\_]] \wedge :=$   
 CF@ $\Sigma_{\text{Join}[b1, b2]}[\sigma_1 + \sigma_2, PQ[C1 \cup C2, q1 + q2]]$ ;



GT for Gap Touch:

GT\_{i,j}@ $\Sigma_B[\{li\_, i, ri\_, \{lj\_, j, rj\_, bs\_\}]$  [ $\sigma$ , PQ[C\_, q\_]] :=

CF@ $\Sigma_B[\{ri, li, j, rj, lj, i, bs\}]$  [ $\sigma$ , PQ[C  $\cup$  { $\gamma_i - \gamma_j$ }, q]]



cor·don (kōr'dn)

n.

1. A line of people, military posts, or ships stationed around an area to enclose or guard it: *a police cordon*.
2. A rope, line, tape, or similar border stretched around an area, usually by the police, indicating that access is restricted.

use  $\phi_p$  to kill its row and column, drop a  $\begin{pmatrix} 01 \\ 10 \end{pmatrix}$  summand

$$s \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \phi C_{rest} \\ \bar{\phi}^T & \lambda \theta \\ \bar{C}_{rest}^T & \bar{\theta}^T A_{rest} \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{cases} \exists p \phi_p \neq 0 & \text{use } \phi_p \text{ to kill its row and column, drop a } \begin{pmatrix} 01 \\ 10 \end{pmatrix} \text{ summand} \\ \phi = 0, \lambda \neq 0 & \text{use } \lambda \text{ to kill } \theta, \text{ let } s += \text{sign}(\lambda) \\ \phi = 0, \lambda = 0 & \text{append } \theta \text{ to } C_{rest}. \end{cases}$$

Cordon\_i@ $\Sigma_B[\{li\_, i, ri\_, bs\_\}]$  [ $\sigma$ , PQ[C\_, q\_]] :=

```
Module[{ $\phi = \partial_{\gamma_i} C$ ,  $\lambda = \partial_{\bar{\gamma}_i, \gamma_i} q$ ,  $n\sigma = \sigma$ ,  $nC$ ,  $nq$ , p},
  {p} = FirstPosition[({# != 0} & /@  $\phi$ , True, {0})];
  {nC, nq} = Which[
    p > 0, {C, q} /. ( $\gamma_i \rightarrow -C[[p]] / \phi[[p]]$ )+ /. ( $\gamma_i \rightarrow \theta$ )+,
     $\lambda != 0$ , ( $n\sigma += \text{sign}[\lambda]$ ;
    {C, q} /. ( $\gamma_i \rightarrow -(\partial_{\bar{\gamma}_i} q) / \lambda$ )+ /. ( $\gamma_i \rightarrow \theta$ )+},
     $\lambda === 0$ , {C  $\cup$  { $\partial_{\bar{\gamma}_i} q$ }, q} /. ( $\gamma_i \rightarrow \theta$ )+];
  CF@ $\Sigma_B[\text{Most}[\{ri, li, bs\}]$  [ $n\sigma$ ,
    PQ[nC, nq] /. ( $\gamma_{\text{Last}[\{ri, li\}]}$  ->  $\gamma_{\text{First}[\{ri, li\}]}$ )+ ] ]
```

**Strand Operations.** c for contract, mc for magnetic contract:

$$c_{i,j}@t : \Sigma_B[\{l_{i,j}, r_{i,j}\}, \{c_{i,j}, c_{j,i}\}] [c] := t // GT_{j, \text{First}\{r_i, l_i\}} // \text{Cordon}_j$$

$$c_{i,j}@t : \Sigma_B[\{c_{i,j}, c_{j,i}\}, \{l_{i,j}, r_{i,j}\}] [c] := \text{Cordon}_j@c$$

$$c_{i,j}@t : \Sigma_B[\{j,i\}, \{i,j\}] [c] := \text{Cordon}_j@c$$

$$c_{i,j}@t : \Sigma_B[\{i,j\}, \{j,i\}] [c] := \text{Cordon}_i@c$$

$$c_{i,j}@t : \Sigma_B[\{i,j\}, \{i,j\}] [c] := \text{Cordon}_i@c$$

$$mc[\mathcal{E}] := \mathcal{E} //$$

$$t : \Sigma_B[\{i,j\}, \{i,j\}] [c] \mid \Sigma_B[\{j,i\}, \{j,i\}] [c] / ; i + j = 0 \Rightarrow c_{i,j}@t$$

**The Crossings** (and empty strands).

$$\text{Kas}@P_{i,j} := \text{CF}@ \Sigma_B[\{i,j\}] [0, \text{PQ}[\{i\}, \emptyset]] ;$$

$$\text{TL}@P_{i,j} := \text{CF}@ \Sigma_B[\{i,j\}] [0, \text{PQ}[\{i\}, \emptyset]]$$

$$\text{Kas}[x : X[i, j, k, l]] :=$$

$$\text{Kas}@ \text{If}[\text{PositiveQ}[x], X_{-i,j,k,-l}, \bar{X}_{-j,k,l,-i}] ;$$

$$\text{Kas}[(x : X | \bar{X})_{fs}] := \text{Module}[\{v = 2u^2 - 1, p, \gamma s, m\},$$

$$\gamma s = \gamma_{\#} \& /@ \{fs\}; p = (x == X) ;$$

$$m = \text{If}[p, \begin{pmatrix} v & u & 1 & u \\ u & 1 & u & 1 \\ 1 & u & v & u \\ u & 1 & u & 1 \end{pmatrix}, -\begin{pmatrix} v & u & 1 & u \\ u & 1 & u & 1 \\ 1 & u & v & u \\ u & 1 & u & 1 \end{pmatrix}] ;$$

$$\text{CF}@ \Sigma_B[\{fs\}] [\text{If}[p, -1, 1], \text{PQ}[\{i\}, \gamma s^* \cdot m \cdot \gamma s]]$$

$$\text{TL}[x : X[i, j, k, l]] :=$$

$$\text{TL}@ \text{If}[\text{PositiveQ}[x], X_{-i,j,k,-l}, \bar{X}_{-j,k,l,-i}] ;$$

$$\text{TL}[(x : X | \bar{X})_{fs}] := \text{Module}[\{t = 1 - \omega, r, \gamma s, m\},$$

$$r = t + t^*; \gamma s = \gamma_{\#} \& /@ \{fs\};$$

$$m = \text{If}[x == X,$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} -r & -t & 2t & t^* \\ -t^* & \theta & t^* & \theta \\ 2t^* & t & -r & -t^* \\ t & \theta & -t & \theta \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} r & -t & -2t^* & t^* \\ -t^* & \theta & t^* & \theta \\ -2t & t & r & -t^* \\ t & \theta & -t & \theta \end{pmatrix}] ;$$

$$\text{CF}@ \Sigma_B[\{fs\}] [0, \text{PQ}[\{i\}, \gamma s^* \cdot m \cdot \gamma s]]$$

**Evaluation on Tangles and Knots.**

$$\text{Kas}[K] := \text{Fold}[\text{mc}[\#1 \oplus \#2] \&, \Sigma_B[0, \text{PQ}[\{i\}, \emptyset]],$$

$$\text{List}@@(\text{Kas} /@ \text{PD}@K) ;$$

$$\text{KasSig}[K] := \text{Expand}[\text{Kas}[K][1] / 2]$$

$$\text{TL}[K] :=$$

$$\text{Fold}[\text{mc}[\#1 \oplus \#2] \&, \Sigma_B[0, \text{PQ}[\{i\}, \emptyset]],$$

$$\text{List}@@(\text{TL} /@ \text{PD}@K) / .$$

$$\theta[c_+ + u] / ; \text{Abs}[c] \geq 1 \Rightarrow \theta[c] ;$$

$$\text{TL}[\text{K}] := \text{TL}[K][1]$$

**Reidemeister 3.**

$$\text{R3L} = \text{PD}[X_{-2,5,4,-1}, X_{-3,7,6,-5},$$

$$X_{-6,9,8,-4}] ;$$

$$\text{R3R} = \text{PD}[X_{-3,5,4,-2}, X_{-4,6,8,-1},$$

$$X_{-5,7,9,-6}] ;$$

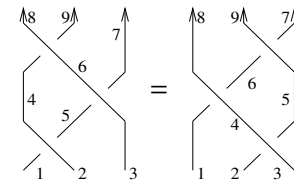
$$\{\text{TL}@R3L == \text{TL}@R3R, \text{Kas}@R3L == \text{Kas}@R3R\}$$

$$\{\text{True}, \text{True}\}$$

**Kas@R3L**

$$2\theta(u - \frac{1}{2}) - 2\theta(u + \frac{1}{2}) - 2$$

	$\gamma_{-3}$	$\gamma_7$	$\gamma_9$	$\gamma_8$	$\gamma_{-1}$	$\gamma_{-2}$
$\bar{\gamma}_{-3}$	$\frac{2u^2(4u^2-3)}{(2u-1)(2u+1)}$	$\frac{u(4u^2-3)}{(2u-1)(2u+1)}$	$-\frac{1}{(2u-1)(2u+1)}$	$-\frac{2u}{(2u-1)(2u+1)}$	$-\frac{1}{(2u-1)(2u+1)}$	$\frac{u(4u^2-3)}{(2u-1)(2u+1)}$
$\bar{\gamma}_7$	$\frac{u(4u^2-3)}{(2u-1)(2u+1)}$	$\frac{2(2u^2-1)}{(2u-1)(2u+1)}$	$\frac{u(4u^2-3)}{(2u-1)(2u+1)}$	$-\frac{1}{(2u-1)(2u+1)}$	$-\frac{2u}{(2u-1)(2u+1)}$	$-\frac{1}{(2u-1)(2u+1)}$
$\bar{\gamma}_9$	$-\frac{1}{(2u-1)(2u+1)}$	$\frac{u(4u^2-3)}{(2u-1)(2u+1)}$	$\frac{2u^2(4u^2-3)}{(2u-1)(2u+1)}$	$\frac{u(4u^2-3)}{(2u-1)(2u+1)}$	$-\frac{1}{(2u-1)(2u+1)}$	$-\frac{2u}{(2u-1)(2u+1)}$
$\bar{\gamma}_8$	$-\frac{2u}{(2u-1)(2u+1)}$	$-\frac{1}{(2u-1)(2u+1)}$	$\frac{u(4u^2-3)}{(2u-1)(2u+1)}$	$\frac{2u^2(4u^2-3)}{(2u-1)(2u+1)}$	$\frac{u(4u^2-3)}{(2u-1)(2u+1)}$	$-\frac{1}{(2u-1)(2u+1)}$
$\bar{\gamma}_{-1}$	$-\frac{1}{(2u-1)(2u+1)}$	$-\frac{2u}{(2u-1)(2u+1)}$	$-\frac{1}{(2u-1)(2u+1)}$	$\frac{u(4u^2-3)}{(2u-1)(2u+1)}$	$\frac{2(2u^2-1)}{(2u-1)(2u+1)}$	$\frac{u(4u^2-3)}{(2u-1)(2u+1)}$
$\bar{\gamma}_{-2}$	$\frac{u(4u^2-3)}{(2u-1)(2u+1)}$	$-\frac{1}{(2u-1)(2u+1)}$	$-\frac{2u}{(2u-1)(2u+1)}$	$-\frac{1}{(2u-1)(2u+1)}$	$\frac{u(4u^2-3)}{(2u-1)(2u+1)}$	$\frac{2u^2(4u^2-3)}{(2u-1)(2u+1)}$



**Reidemeister 2.**

$$\text{TL}@ \text{PD}[X_{-2,4,3,-1}, \bar{X}_{-4,6,5,-3}]$$

$$\begin{matrix} & \theta & & & \\ & 1 & 0 & -1 & \theta \\ (\gamma_{-2} & \gamma_6 & \gamma_5 & \gamma_{-1}) & \\ \bar{\gamma}_{-2} & \theta & \theta & \theta & \theta \\ \bar{\gamma}_6 & \theta & \theta & \theta & \theta \\ \bar{\gamma}_5 & \theta & \theta & \theta & \theta \\ \bar{\gamma}_{-1} & \theta & \theta & \theta & \theta \end{matrix}$$

$$\{\text{TL}@ \text{PD}[X_{-2,4,3,-1}, \bar{X}_{-4,6,5,-3}] == \text{GT}_{5,-2}@ \text{TL}@ \text{PD}[P_{-1,5}, P_{-2,6}],$$

$$\{\text{True}, \text{True}\}$$

**Reidemeister 1.**

$$\{\text{TL}@ \text{PD}[X_{-3,3,2,-1}] == \text{TL}@P_{-1,2},$$

$$\text{Kas}@ \text{PD}[X_{-3,3,2,-1}] == \text{Kas}@P_{-1,2}\}$$

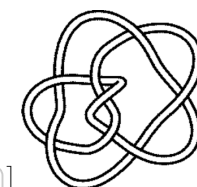
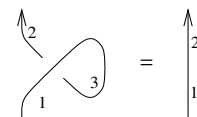
$$\{\text{True}, \text{True}\}$$

**A Knot.**

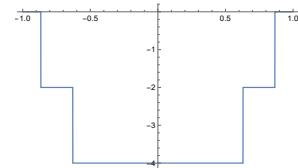
$$f = \text{TL}[\text{Sig}[\text{Knot}[8, 5]]]$$

$$2\theta\left[-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} + u\right] - 2\theta\left[\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} + u\right] -$$

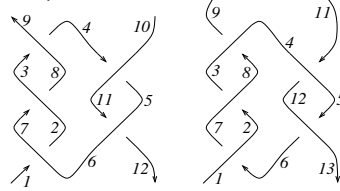
$$2\theta\left[u - \sqrt{-0.630\dots}\right] + 2\theta\left[u - \sqrt{0.630\dots}\right]$$



$$\text{Plot}[f, \{u, -1, 1\}]$$



# The Conway-Kinoshita-Terasaka Tangles.



$$T1 = PD[\bar{X}_{-6,2,7,-1}, \bar{X}_{-2,8,3,-7}, \bar{X}_{-8,4,9,-3}, X_{-11,6,12,-5}, X_{-4,11,5,-10}];$$

$$T2 = PD[X_{-6,2,7,-1}, X_{-2,8,3,-7}, X_{-8,4,9,-3}, \bar{X}_{-12,6,13,-5}, \bar{X}_{-4,12,5,-11}, \bar{X}_{-10,15,11,-14}, \bar{X}_{-15,10,16,-9}];$$

## Column@{TL [T1], Kas [T1]}

$$-2\theta(u - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}) + 2\theta(u + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}) - 1$$

$\bar{Y}_{-10}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$
$\bar{Y}_9$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$
$\bar{Y}_{-1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$
$\bar{Y}_{12}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$

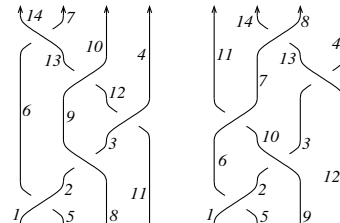
## Column@{TL [T2], Kas [T2]}

$\bar{Y}_{-14}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2(\omega-1)^2\omega}{\omega^4-3\omega^3+5\omega^2-3\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2(\omega-1)^2\omega}{\omega^4-3\omega^3+5\omega^2-3\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2(\omega-1)^2\omega}{\omega^4-3\omega^3+5\omega^2-3\omega+1}$
$\bar{Y}_{16}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2(\omega-1)^2\omega}{\omega^4-3\omega^3+5\omega^2-3\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2(\omega-1)^2\omega}{\omega^4-3\omega^3+5\omega^2-3\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2(\omega-1)^2\omega}{\omega^4-3\omega^3+5\omega^2-3\omega+1}$
$\bar{Y}_{-1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2(\omega-1)^2\omega}{\omega^4-3\omega^3+5\omega^2-3\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2(\omega-1)^2\omega}{\omega^4-3\omega^3+5\omega^2-3\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2(\omega-1)^2\omega}{\omega^4-3\omega^3+5\omega^2-3\omega+1}$
$\bar{Y}_{13}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2(\omega-1)^2\omega}{\omega^4-3\omega^3+5\omega^2-3\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2(\omega-1)^2\omega}{\omega^4-3\omega^3+5\omega^2-3\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2(\omega-1)^2\omega}{\omega^4-3\omega^3+5\omega^2-3\omega+1}$

## Examples with non-trivial co-dimension.

$$B1 = PD[X_{-5,2,6,-1}, \bar{X}_{-8,3,9,-2}, X_{-11,4,12,-3}, X_{-12,10,13,-9}, \bar{X}_{-13,7,14,-6}];$$

$$B2 = PD[X_{-5,2,6,-1}, \bar{X}_{-9,3,10,-2}, X_{-10,7,11,-6}, \bar{X}_{-12,4,13,-3}, X_{-13,8,14,-7}];$$



## Column@{TL [B1], Kas [B1]}

$\bar{Y}_{-11}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$
$\bar{Y}_4$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$
$\bar{Y}_{10}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$
$\bar{Y}_7$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$
$\bar{Y}_{14}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$
$\bar{Y}_{-1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$
$\bar{Y}_{-5}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$
$\bar{Y}_{-8}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$

## Column@{TL [B2], Kas [B2]}

$\bar{Y}_{-12}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$
$\bar{Y}_4$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$
$\bar{Y}_8$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$
$\bar{Y}_{14}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$
$\bar{Y}_{11}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$
$\bar{Y}_{-1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$
$\bar{Y}_{-5}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$
$\bar{Y}_{-9}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$	$\frac{\omega-1}{\omega}$	$\frac{2\omega}{\omega^2-\omega+1}$

$\begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & U \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\det(A)} \begin{pmatrix} I & A^{-1}B \\ C & U \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{1} \begin{pmatrix} I & A^{-1}B \\ 0 & U - CA^{-1}B \end{pmatrix}$  Roughly,  $\det(A)$  is "det on ker",  $-CA^{-1}B$  is "a pushforward of  $\begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & U \end{pmatrix}$ ".

so  $\det \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & U \end{pmatrix} = \det(A)\det(U - CA^{-1}B)$ . (what if  $\mathbb{A}A^{-1}$ ?)

**Questions.** 1. Does this have a topological meaning? 2. Is there a version of the Kashaev Conjecture for tangles? 3. Find all solutions of R123 in our "algebra". 4. Braids and the Burau representation. 5. Recover the work in "Prior Art". 6. Are there any concordance properties? 7. What is the "SPQ group"? 8. The jumping points of signatures are the roots of the Alexander polynomial. Does this generalize to tangles? 9. Which of the three Cordon cases is the most common? 10. Are there interesting examples of tangles for which rels is non-trivial? 11. Is the  $pq$  part determined by  $\Gamma$ -calculus? 12. Is the  $pq$  part determined by finite type invariants? 13. Does it work with closed components / links? 14. Strand-doubling formulas? 15. A multivariable version? 16. Mutation invariance? 17. Ribbon knots? 18. Are there "face-virtual knots"? 19. Does the pushforward story extend to ranks? To formal Gaussian measures? To super Gaussian measures?

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**Some Rigor.** (Exercises hints and partial solutions at end)

**Exercise 1.** Show that if two SPQ's  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  on  $V$  satisfy  $\sigma(S_1 + U) = \sigma(S_2 + U)$  for every quadratic  $U$  on  $V$ , then they have the same shifts and the same domains.

**Exercise 2.** Show that if two full quadratics  $Q_1$  and  $Q_2$  satisfy  $\sigma(Q_1 + U) = \sigma(Q_2 + U)$  for every  $U$ , then  $Q_1 = Q_2$ .

**Proof of Theorem 1'.** Fix  $W$  and consider triples  $(V, S, \phi: V \rightarrow W)$  where  $S = (s, D, Q)$  is an SPQ on  $V$ . Say that two triples are "push-equivalent",  $(V_1, S_1, \phi_1) \sim (V_2, S_2, \phi_2)$  if for every quadratic  $U$  on  $W$ ,

$$\sigma_{V_1}(S_1 + \phi_1^* U) = \sigma_{V_2}(S_2 + \phi_2^* U).$$

Given our  $(V, S, \phi)$ , we need to show:

1. There is an SPQ  $S'$  on  $W$  such that  $(V, S, \phi) \sim (W, S', I)$ .
2. If  $(W, S', I) \sim (W, S'', I)$  then  $S' = S''$ .

Property 2 is easy (Exercises 1, 2). Property 1 follows from the following three claims, each of which is easy.

**Claim 1.** If  $v \in \ker \phi \cap D(S)$ , and  $\lambda := Q(v, v) \neq 0$ , then  $(V, S, \phi) \sim$

$$\left( V/\langle v \rangle, (s + \text{sign}(\lambda), D(S)/\langle v \rangle, Q - \lambda^{-1} Q(-, v) \otimes Q(v, -)), \phi/\langle v \rangle \right).$$

So wlog  $Q|_{\ker \phi} = 0$  (meaning,  $Q|_{\ker \phi \otimes \ker \phi} = 0$ ).  $\square$

**Claim 2.** If  $Q|_{\ker \phi} = 0$  and  $v \in \ker \phi \cap D(S)$ , let  $V' = \ker Q(v, -)$  and then  $(V, S, \phi) \sim (V', S|_{V'}, \phi|_{V'})$  so wlog  $Q|_{V \otimes \ker \phi + \ker \phi \otimes V} = 0$ .  $\square$

**Claim 3.** If  $Q|_{V \otimes \ker \phi + \ker \phi \otimes V} = 0$  then  $S = \phi^* S'$  for some SPQ  $S'$  on  $\text{im } \phi$  and then  $(V, S, \phi) \sim (W, S', I)$ .  $\square$

**Proof of Theorem 2.** The functoriality of pullbacks needs no proof.

Now assume  $V_0 \xrightarrow{\alpha} V_1 \xrightarrow{\beta} V_2$  and that  $S$  is an SPQ on  $V_0$ . Then for every SPQ  $U$  on  $V_2$  we have, using reciprocity three times, that  $\sigma(\beta_* \alpha_* S + U) = \sigma(\alpha_* S + \beta^* U) = \sigma(S + \alpha^* \beta^* U) = \sigma(S + (\beta \alpha)^* U) = \sigma((\beta \alpha)_* S + U)$ . Hence  $\beta_* \alpha_* S = (\beta \alpha)_* S$ .  $\square$

**Definition.** A commutative square as on the right is called *admissible* if  $\gamma^* \beta_* = \nu_* \mu^*$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Y & \xrightarrow{\nu} & W \\ \mu \downarrow & \nearrow & \downarrow \gamma \\ V & \xrightarrow{\beta} & Z \end{array}$$

**Lemma 1.** If  $V = W = Y = Z$  and  $\beta = \gamma = \mu = \nu = I$ , the square is admissible.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.** The following are equivalent:

1. A square as above is admissible.
2. The *Pairing Condition* holds. Namely, if  $S_1$  is an SPQ on  $V$  (write  $S_1 \vdash V$ ) and  $S_2 \vdash W$ , then  $\sigma(\mu^* S_1 + \nu^* S_2) = \sigma(\beta_* S_1 + \gamma_* S_2)$ .
3. The square is mirror admissible:  $\beta^* \gamma_* = \mu_* \nu^*$ .

**Proof.** Using Exercises 1 and 2 below, and then using reciprocity on both sides, we have  $\forall S_1 \gamma^* \beta_* S_1 = \nu_* \mu^* S_1 \Leftrightarrow \forall S_1 \forall S_2 \sigma(\gamma^* \beta_* S_1 + S_2) = \sigma(\nu_* \mu^* S_1 + S_2) \Leftrightarrow \forall S_1 \forall S_2 \sigma(\beta_* S_1 + \gamma_* S_2) = \sigma(\mu^* S_1 + \nu^* S_2)$ , and thus  $1 \Leftrightarrow 2$ . But the condition in 2 is symmetric under  $\beta \leftrightarrow \gamma, \mu \leftrightarrow \nu$ , so also  $2 \Leftrightarrow 3$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 3.** If the first diagram below is admissible, then so is the second.  $\square$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Y & \xrightarrow{\nu} & W \\ \mu \downarrow & \nearrow & \downarrow \gamma \\ V & \xrightarrow{\beta} & Z \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{ccc} Y & \xrightarrow{\nu} & W \\ \mu \downarrow & \nearrow & \downarrow \gamma \\ V & \xrightarrow{\beta \oplus 0} & Z \oplus F \end{array}$$

**Lemma 4.** A pushforward by an inclusion is the do nothing operation (though note that the pushforward via an inclusion of a fully defined quadratic retains its domain of definition, which now may become partial).  $\square$

**Lemma 5.** For any linear  $\phi: V \rightarrow W$ , the diagram on the right is admissible, where  $\iota$  denotes the inclusion maps.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} V & \xrightarrow{\iota} & V \oplus C \\ \phi \downarrow & \nearrow & \downarrow \phi \oplus I \\ W & \xrightarrow{\iota} & W \oplus C \end{array}$$

**Proof.** Follows easily from Lemma 4.  $\square$

**Definition.** If  $S$  is an SPQ with domain  $D$  and quadratic  $Q$ , the radical of  $S$  is the radical of  $Q$  considered as a fully-defined quadratic on  $D$ . Namely,  $\text{rad } S := \{u \in D: \forall v \in D, Q(u, v) = 0\}$ .

<sup>1</sup>Truly, we need the same for any number of input SPQ's that are divided into two groups, "multiply in the first step" and "multiply in the second step". But there's no added difficulty here, only an added notational complexity.

<sup>2</sup>Aren't we sassy? We picked "6" for the name of the product of "2" and "3".

**Lemma 6.** Always,  $\phi(\text{rad } S) \subset \text{rad } \phi_* S$ .

**Proof.** Pick  $w \in \phi(\text{rad } S)$  and repeat the proof of Theorem 1' but now considering quadruples  $(V, S, \phi, v)$ , where  $(V, S, \phi)$  are as before and  $v \in \text{rad } S$  satisfies  $\phi(v) = w$ . Clearly our initial triple  $(V, S, \phi)$  can be extended to such a quadruple, and it is easy to repeat the steps of the proof of Theorem 1' extending everything to such quadruples.  $\square$

We have to acknowledge that our proof of Lemma 6 is ugly. We wish we had a cleaner one.

**Exercise 3.** Show that if two SPQ's  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  on  $V \oplus A$  satisfy  $A \subset \text{rad } S_i$  and  $\sigma(S_1 + \pi^* U) = \sigma(S_2 + \pi^* U)$  for every quadratic  $U$  on  $V$ , where  $\pi: V \oplus A \rightarrow V$  is the projection, then  $S_1 = S_2$ .

**Exercise 4.** Show that if  $\phi: V \rightarrow W$  is surjective and  $Q$  is a quadratic on  $W$ , then  $\sigma(Q) = \sigma(\phi^* Q)$ .

**Exercise 5.** Show that always,  $\phi_* \phi^* S = S|_{\text{im } \phi}$ .

**Lemma 7.** For any linear  $\phi: V \rightarrow W$ , the diagram on the right is admissible, where  $\phi^+ := \phi \oplus I$  and  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  denote the projection maps.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} V \oplus C & \xrightarrow{\phi^+} & W \oplus C \\ \alpha \downarrow & \nearrow & \downarrow \beta \\ V & \xrightarrow{\phi} & W \end{array}$$

**Proof.** Let  $S$  be an SPQ on  $V$ . Clearly  $C \subset \beta^* \phi_* S$ . Also,  $C \subset \text{rad } \alpha^* S$  so by Lemma 6,  $C = \phi^+(C) \subset \phi^+(\text{rad } \alpha^* S) \subset \text{rad } \phi_* \alpha^* S$ . Hence using Exercise 3, it is enough to show that  $\sigma(\phi_* \alpha^* S + \beta^* U) = \sigma(\beta^* \phi_* S + \beta^* U)$  for every  $U$  on  $W$ . Indeed,  $\sigma(\phi_* \alpha^* S + \beta^* U) \stackrel{(1)}{=} \sigma(\beta^* \phi_* \alpha^* S + \beta^* U) \stackrel{(2)}{=} \sigma(\phi_* \alpha_* \alpha^* S + U) \stackrel{(3)}{=} \sigma(\phi_* S + U) \stackrel{(4)}{=} \sigma(\beta^*(\phi_* S + U)) \stackrel{(5)}{=} \sigma(\beta^* \phi_* S + \beta^* U)$ , using (1) reciprocity, (2) the commutativity of the diagram and the functoriality of pushing, (3) Exercise 5, (4) Exercise 4, and (5) the additivity of pullbacks.  $\square$

**Lemma 8.** If the first diagram below is admissible, then so are the other two.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Y & \xrightarrow{\nu} & W \\ \mu \downarrow & \nearrow & \downarrow \gamma \\ V & \xrightarrow{\beta} & Z \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{ccc} Y \oplus E & \xrightarrow{\nu \oplus 0} & W \\ \mu \oplus I \downarrow & \nearrow & \downarrow \gamma \\ V \oplus E & \xrightarrow{\beta \oplus 0} & Z \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{ccc} Y & \xrightarrow{\nu \oplus 0} & W \oplus F \\ \mu \downarrow & \nearrow & \downarrow \gamma \oplus I \\ V & \xrightarrow{\beta \oplus 0} & Z \oplus F \end{array}$$

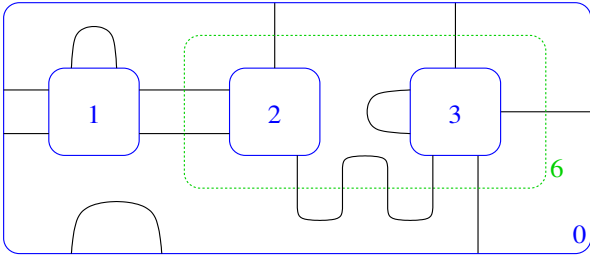
**Proof.** In the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} Y \oplus E & \xrightarrow{\pi} & Y & \xrightarrow{\nu} & W & \xrightarrow{\iota} & W \oplus F \\ \mu \oplus I \downarrow & \nearrow & \mu \downarrow & \nearrow & \downarrow \gamma & \nearrow & \downarrow \gamma \oplus I \\ V \oplus E & \xrightarrow{\pi} & V & \xrightarrow{\beta} & Z & \xrightarrow{\iota} & Z \oplus F \end{array}$$

with  $\pi$  marking projections and  $\iota$  inclusions, the left square is admissible by Lemma 7, the middle square by assumption, and the right square by Lemma 5. Along with the functoriality of pushforwards this shows the admissibility of both the left and the right  $1 \times 2$  subrectangles, and these are the diagrams we wanted.  $\square$

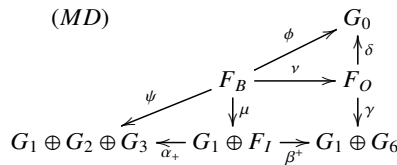
**Proof of Theorem 3.** Decompose  $Z = A \oplus E \oplus F \rightarrow A \oplus C \oplus F$   $A \oplus B \oplus C \oplus D$ , where  $A = \text{im } \beta \cap \text{im } \gamma$ ,  $\downarrow$   $A \oplus B \oplus E \rightarrow A \oplus B \oplus C \oplus D$   $\text{im } \beta = A \oplus B$ , and  $\text{im } \gamma = A \oplus C$ . Write  $V \simeq A \oplus B \oplus E$  with  $\beta = I$  on  $A \oplus B$  yet  $\beta = 0$  on  $E$ , and write  $W \simeq A \oplus C \oplus F$  with  $\gamma = I$  on  $A \oplus C$  yet  $\gamma = 0$  on  $F$ . Then  $Y = V \oplus_Z W \simeq A \oplus E \oplus F$  and our square is as shown on the right, with all maps equal to  $I$  on like-named summands and equal to 0 on non-like-named summands. But this diagram is admissible: build it up using Lemma 1 for the  $A$ 's, and then Lemma 8 for  $E$  and  $C$ , and then again Lemma 8 along with the mirror property of Lemma 2 for  $B$  and  $F$ , and then Lemma 3 for  $D$ .  $\square$

To prove Theorem 4, given three<sup>1</sup> SPQ's  $S_1, S_2$ , and  $S_3$ , we need to show that planar-multiplying them in two steps, first using a planar connection diagram  $D_I$  ( $I$  for Inner) to yield  $S_6 = S(D_I)(S_2, S_3)$  and then using a second planar connection diagram  $D_O$  ( $O$  for Outer) to yield  $S(D_O)(S_1, S_6)$ , gives the same answer as multiplying them all at once using the composition planar connection diagram  $D_B = D_O \circ D_I$  ( $B$  for Big) to yield  $S(D_B)(S_1, S_2, S_3)$ .<sup>2</sup> An example should help:



In this example, if you ignore the dotted green line (marked “6”), you see the planar connection diagram  $D_B$ , which has three inputs (1,2,3) and a single output, the cycle 0. If you only look inside the green line, you see  $D_I$ , with inputs 2 and 3 and an output cycle 6. If you ignore the inside of 6 you see  $D_O$ , with inputs 1 and 6 and output cycle 0.

Let  $F_B$  (Big Faces) denote the vector space whose basis are the faces of  $D_B$ , let  $F_I$  (Inner Faces) be the space of faces of  $D_I$ , and let  $F_O$  (Outer Faces) be the space of faces of  $D_O$ . Let  $G_1, G_2, G_3, G_6$ , and  $G_0$  be the spaces of gaps (edges) along the cycles 1,2,3,6, and 0, respectively. Let  $\psi := \psi_{D_B}$  and  $\phi := \phi^{D_B}$  be the maps defining  $\mathcal{S}(D_B)$  and let  $\gamma := \psi_{D_O}$  and  $\delta := \phi^{D_O}$  be the maps defining  $\mathcal{S}(D_O)$ . Further, let  $\alpha := \psi_{D_I}: F_I \rightarrow G_2 \oplus G_3$  and  $\beta := \phi^{D_I}: F_I \rightarrow G_6$  be the maps defining  $\mathcal{S}(D_I)$ , and let  $\alpha_+ := I \oplus \alpha$  and  $\beta^+ := I \oplus \beta$  be the extensions of  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  by an identity on an extra factor of  $G_1$ , so that  $\beta^+ \alpha_+^* = I_{G_1} \oplus \mathcal{S}(D_I)$ . Let  $\mu$  map any big face to the sum of  $G_1$  gaps around it, plus the sum of the inner faces it contains. Let  $\nu$  map any big face to the sum of the outer faces it contains. It is easy to see that the master diagram (MD) shown on the right, made of all of these spaces and maps, is commutative.



**Claim.** The bottom right square of (MD) is an equalizer square, namely  $F_B \simeq EQ(\beta^+, \gamma)$ . Hence  $\nu_* \mu^* = \gamma^* \beta^+$ .

**Proof.** A big face (an element of  $F_B$ ) is a sum of outer faces  $f_o$  and a sum of inner faces  $f_i$ , and it has a boundary  $g_1$  on input cycle 1, such that the boundary of the outer pieces  $f_o$  is equal to the boundary of the inner pieces  $f_i$  plus  $g_1$ . That matches perfectly with the definition of the equalizer:  $EQ(\beta^+, \gamma) = \{(g_1, f_i, f_o) : \beta^+(g_1, f_i) = \gamma(f_o)\} = \{(g_1, f_i, f_o) : \gamma(f_o) = (g_1, \beta(f_i))\}$ .  $\square$

**Proof of Theorem 4.** With notation as above, with the example above (which is general enough), and with the claim above, and also using functoriality, we have  $\mathcal{S}(D_B) = \phi_* \psi^* = \delta_* \nu_* \mu^* \alpha_+^* = \delta_* \gamma^* \beta^+ \alpha_+^* = \mathcal{S}(D_O) \circ (I_{G_1} \oplus \mathcal{S}(D_I))$ , as required.  $\square$

**Proof of Theorem 5.** We need to verify the Reidemeister moves and that was done in the computational section, and the statement about the restriction to links, which is easy: simply assemble an  $n$ -crossing knot using an  $n$ -input planar connection diagram, and the formulas clearly match.  $\square$

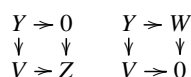
**Further Homework.**

**Exercise 6.** By taking  $U = 0$  in the reciprocity statement, prove that always  $\sigma(\phi_* S) = \sigma(S)$ . But that seems wrong, if  $\phi = 0$ . What saves the day?

**Exercise 7.** By taking  $S = 0$  in the reciprocity statement, prove that always  $\sigma(\phi^* U) = \sigma(U)$ . But wait, this is nonsense! What went wrong?

**Exercise 8.** Given  $\phi: V \rightarrow W$  and a subspace  $D \subset V$ , show that there is a unique subspace  $\phi_* D \subset W$  such that for every quadratic  $Q$  on  $W$ ,  $\sigma(\phi^* Q|_D) = \sigma(Q|_{\phi_* D})$ .

**Exercise 9.** When are diagrams as on the right equalizer diagrams? What then do we learn from Theorem 3?



**Exercise 10.** There are 11 types or irreducible commutative squares:  $1 \rightrightarrows 0, 0 \rightrightarrows 1, 0 \rightrightarrows 0, 0 \rightrightarrows 0, 1 \rightrightarrows 1, 0 \rightrightarrows 1, 0 \rightrightarrows 1, 0 \rightrightarrows 0, 0 \rightrightarrows 0, 0 \rightrightarrows 0, 1 \rightrightarrows 0, 0 \rightrightarrows 1, 0 \rightrightarrows 0, 0 \rightrightarrows 1, 0 \rightrightarrows 1, 1 \rightrightarrows 1$ . Show that pushing commutes with pulling for all but four of them. Compare with the statement of Theorem 3.

**Exercise 11.** Prove that a square is admissible iff it is an equalizer square, with an additional direct summand  $A$  added to the  $Y$  term, and with the maps  $\mu$  and  $\nu$  extended by 0 on  $A$ .

**Exercise 12.** Prove that the direct sum of two admissible squares is admissible. *Warning:* Harder than it seems! Not all quadratics on  $V_1 \oplus V_2$  are direct sums of quadratics on  $V_1$  and on  $V_2$ .

**Exercise 13.** Given a quadratic  $Q$  on a space  $V$ , let  $\pi$  be the projection  $V \rightarrow V/\text{rad}(Q)$  and show that  $\pi_* Q = Q/\text{rad}(Q)$ , with the obvious definition for the latter.

**Exercise 14.** Show that for any partial quadratic  $Q$  on a space  $W$  there exists a space  $A$  and a fully-defined quadratic  $F$  on  $W \oplus A$  such that  $\pi_* F = Q$ , where  $\pi: W \oplus A \rightarrow W$  is the projection (these are not unique). Furthermore, if  $\phi: V \rightarrow W$ , then  $\phi^* Q = \pi_* \phi_* F$ , where  $\phi_* = \phi \oplus I: V \oplus A \rightarrow W \oplus A$  and  $\pi$  also denotes the projection  $V \oplus A \rightarrow V$ .

**Solutions / Hints.**

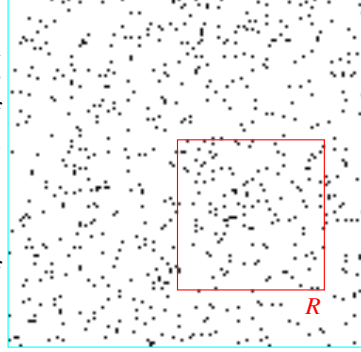
**Hint for 1.** In the domain of one of the other square as a vector in the domain of one of the other square. Hint for 2. WLOG,  $Q$  is diagonal and  $0 = I \oplus Q$ . Hint for 3. It's enough to test that against  $\cup$  with  $\cup$  and  $\cap$ . Hint for 4. The "shift" part of  $Q$  is  $Q \oplus 0$ . Hint for 5.  $\phi$  isn't 0, it's the partial quadratic  $Q$  on  $W$ . Hint for 6. The exceptions are  $0 \oplus 0, 0 \oplus 1, 1 \oplus 0, 1 \oplus 1$  and  $1 \oplus 1$ . Use Exercise 11. Hint for 12. Use Exercise 11.

**Abstract.** Following joint work with Itai Bar-Natan, Iva Halacheva, and Nancy Scherich, I will show that the Best Known Time (BKT) to compute a typical Finite Type Invariant (FTI) of type  $d$  on a typical knot with  $n$  crossings is roughly equal to  $n^{d/2}$ , which is roughly the square root of what I believe was the standard belief before, namely about  $n^d$ .

**My Primary Interest.** Strong, fast, homomorphic knot and tangle invariants.  $\omega\epsilon\beta/\text{Nara}$ ,  $\omega\epsilon\beta/\text{Kyoto}$ ,  $\omega\epsilon\beta/\text{Tokyo}$

**Conventions.**  $\bullet \underline{n} := \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ .  $\bullet$  For complexity estimates we ignore constant and logarithmic terms:  $n^3 \sim 2023d!(\log n)^d n^3$ .

**A Key Preliminary.** Let  $Q \subset \underline{n}^l$  be an enumerated subset, with  $1 \ll q = |Q| \ll n^l$ . In time  $\sim q$  we can set up a lookup table of size  $\sim q$  so that we will be able to compute  $|Q \cap R|$  in time  $\sim 1$ , for any rectangle  $R \subset \underline{n}^l$ .

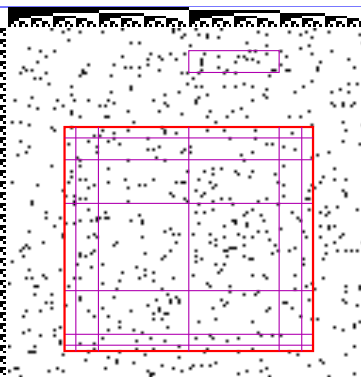


**Fails.**  $\bullet$  Count after  $R$  is presented.  $\bullet$  Make a lookup table of  $|Q \cap R|$  counts for all  $R$ 's.

**Unfail.** Make a restricted lookup table of the form

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} R \rightarrow |Q \cap R| \\ \text{dyadic} \\ > 0 \end{array} \right\}$$

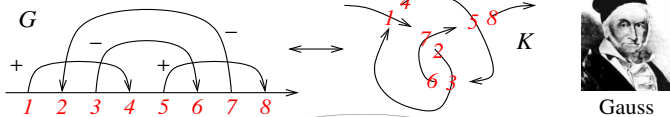
$\bullet$  Make the table by running through  $x \in Q$ , and for each one increment by 1 only the entries for dyadic  $R \ni x$  (or create such an entry, if it didn't exist already). This takes  $q \cdot (\log_2 n)^l \sim q$  ops.



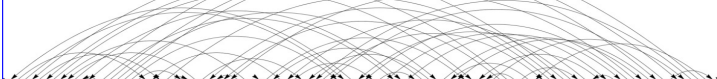
- $\bullet$  Entries for empty dyadic  $R$ 's are not needed and not created.
- $\bullet$  Using standard sorting techniques, access takes  $\log_2 q \sim 1$  ops.
- $\bullet$  A general  $R$  is a union of at most  $(2 \log_2 n)^l \sim 1$  dyadic ones, so counting  $|Q \cap R|$  takes  $\sim 1$  ops.

**Generalization.** Without changing the conclusion, replace counts  $|Q \cap R|$  with summations  $\sum_R \theta$ , where  $\theta: \underline{n}^l \rightarrow V$  is supported on a sparse  $Q$ , takes values in a vector space  $V$  with  $\dim V \sim 1$ , and in some basis, all of its coefficients are "easy".

**Gauss Diagrams.**



Here's  $|G| = n = 100$  (signs suppressed):



**Definitions.** Let  $\mathcal{G} := \mathbb{Q}\langle \text{Gauss Diagrams} \rangle$ , with  $\mathcal{G}_d / \mathcal{G}_{\leq d}$  the diagrams with exactly / at most  $d$  arrows. Let  $\varphi_d: \mathcal{G} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}_d$  be  $\varphi_d: G \mapsto \sum_{D \subset G, |D|=d} D = \sum_{D \in \binom{G}{d}} D$ , and let  $\varphi_{\leq d} = \sum_{e \leq d} \varphi_e$ .

Naively, it takes  $\binom{n}{d} \sim n^d$  ops to compute  $\varphi_d$ .

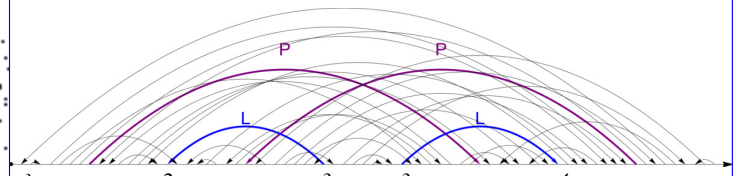
**The [GPV] Theorem.** A knot invariant is finite type of type  $d$  iff it is of the form  $\omega \circ \varphi_{\leq d}$  for some  $\omega \in \mathcal{G}_{\leq d}^*$ .



- $\bullet \Leftarrow$  is easy;  $\Rightarrow$  is hard and IMHO not well understood.
- $\bullet \varphi_{\leq d}$  is not an invariants and not every  $\omega$  gives an invariant!
- $\bullet$  The theory of finite type invariants is very rich. Many knot invariants factor through finite type invariants, and it is possible that they separate knots.
- $\bullet$  We need a fast algorithm to compute  $\varphi_{\leq d}$ !

**Our Main Theorem.** On an  $n$ -arrow Gauss diagram,  $\varphi_d$  can be computed in time  $\sim n^{[d/2]}$ .

**Proof.** With  $d = p + l$  ( $p$  for "put",  $l$  for "lookup"), pick  $p$  arrows and look up in how many ways the remaining  $l$  can be placed in between the legs of the first  $p$ :



To reconstruct  $D = P\#_{\lambda}L$  from  $P$  and  $L$  we need a non-decreasing "placement function"  $\lambda: \underline{2l} \rightarrow \underline{2p+1}$ .

$$\varphi_d(G) = \sum_{D \in \binom{G}{d}} D = \binom{d}{p}^{-1} \sum_{P \in \binom{G}{p}} \sum_{\substack{\text{non-decreasing} \\ \lambda: \underline{2l} \rightarrow \underline{2p+1}}} \sum_{L \in \binom{G}{l}} P\#_{\lambda}L$$

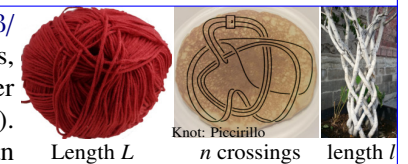
Define  $\theta_G: \underline{2n} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}_l$  by

$$(L_1, \dots, L_{2l}) \mapsto \begin{cases} L & \text{if } (L_1, \dots, L_{2l}) \text{ are the ends of some } L \subset G \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{and now } \varphi_d(G) = \binom{d}{p}^{-1} \sum_{P \in \binom{G}{p}} \sum_{\substack{\text{non-decreasing} \\ \lambda: \underline{2l} \rightarrow \underline{2p+1}}} P\#_{\lambda} \left( \sum_{\prod_i (P_{\lambda(i)-1}, P_{\lambda(i)})} \theta_G \right)$$

can be computed in time  $\sim n^p + n^l$ . Now take  $p = \lceil d/2 \rceil$ .  $\square$

**Question** ([BBHS],  $\omega\epsilon\beta/\text{Fields}$ ). For computations, planar projections are better than braids (as likely  $l \sim n^{3/2}$ ). But are yarn balls better than planar projections (here likely  $n \sim L^{4/3}$ )?



**References.**

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# Cars, Interchanges, Traffic Counters, and some Pretty Darned Good Knot Invariants

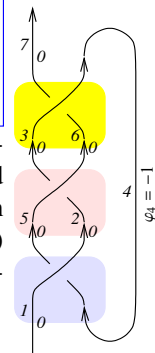
More at ωεβ/APAI

**Abstract.** Reporting on joint work with Roland van der Veen, I'll tell you some stories about  $\rho_1$ , an easy to define, strong, fast to compute, homomorphic, and well-connected knot invariant.  $\rho_1$  was first studied by Rozansky and Overbay [Ro1, Ro2, Ro3, Ov] and Ohtsuki [Oh2], it has far-reaching generalizations, it is elementary and dominated by the coloured Jones polynomial, and I wish I understood it.



**Jones:** Formulas stay; interpretations change with time.

**Formulas.** Draw an  $n$ -crossing knot  $K$  as on the right: all crossings face up, and the edges are marked with a running index  $k \in \{1, \dots, 2n + 1\}$  and with rotation numbers  $\varphi_k$ . Let  $A$  be the  $(2n + 1) \times (2n + 1)$  matrix constructed by starting with the identity matrix  $I$ , and adding a  $2 \times 2$  block for each crossing:

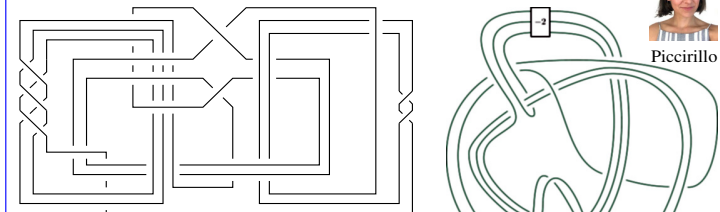


**Common misconception.** Dominated, elementary  $\Rightarrow$  lesser.

**We seek** strong, fast, homomorphic knot and tangle invariants.

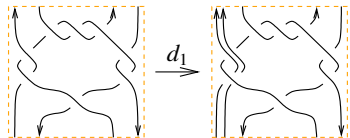
**Strong.** Having a small "kernel".

**Fast.** Computable even for large knots (best: poly time).

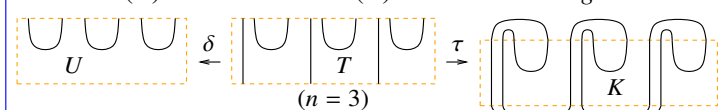


Gompf-Scharlemann-Thompson

**Homomorphic.** Extends to tangles and behaves under tangle operations; especially gluings and doublings:



**Why care for "Homomorphic"?** **Theorem.** A knot  $K$  is ribbon iff there exists a  $2n$ -component tangle  $T$  with skeleton as below such that  $\tau(T) = K$  and where  $\delta(T) = U$  is the *untangle*:



Hear more at ωεβ/AKT.

**Acknowledgement.** This work was supported by NSERC grant RGPIN-2018-04350 and by the Chu Family Foundation (NYC).

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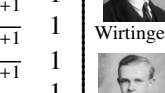


$$p = 1 - T^s$$

\* In algebra  $x \sim 0$  if for every  $y$  in the ideal generated by  $x$ ,  $1 - y$  is invertible.

Let  $G = (g_{\alpha\beta}) = A^{-1}$ . For the trefoil example, it is:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -T & 0 & 0 & T-1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -T & 0 & 0 & T-1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & T-1 & 0 & 1 & -T & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$



$$G = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & T & 1 & T & 1 & T & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{1}{T^2-T+1} & \frac{T}{T^2-T+1} & \frac{T}{T^2-T+1} & \frac{T^2}{T^2-T+1} & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{1-T} & \frac{1}{1-T} & \frac{1}{1-T} & \frac{1}{1-T} & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{T^2-T+1}{1-T} & \frac{T^2-T+1}{1-T} & \frac{T^2-T+1}{1-T} & \frac{T^2-T+1}{1-T} & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{T^2-T+1} & -\frac{(T-1)T}{T^2-T+1} & \frac{1}{T^2-T+1} & \frac{T}{T^2-T+1} & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

"The Green Function"

**Note.** The Alexander polynomial  $\Delta$  is given by

$$\Delta = T^{(-\varphi-w)/2} \det(A), \quad \text{with } \varphi = \sum_k \varphi_k, \quad w = \sum_c s.$$

**Classical Topologists:** This is boring. Yawn.

**Formulas, continued.** Finally, set

$$R_1(c) := s(g_{ji}(g_{j+1,j} + g_{j,j+1} - g_{ij}) - g_{ii}(g_{j,j+1} - 1) - 1/2)$$

$$\rho_1 := \Delta^2 \left( \sum_c R_1(c) - \sum_k \varphi_k (g_{kk} - 1/2) \right).$$

In our example  $\rho_1 = -T^2 + 2T - 2 + 2T^{-1} - T^{-2}$ .

**Theorem.**  $\rho_1$  is a knot invariant.

Proof: later.

**Classical Topologists:** Whiskey Tango Foxtrot?

## Cars, Interchanges, and Traffic Counters.

Cars always drive forward. When a car crosses over a bridge it goes through with (algebraic) probability  $T^s \sim 1$ , but falls off with probability  $1 - T^s \sim 0^*$ . At the very end, cars fall off and disappear. See also [Jo, LTW].

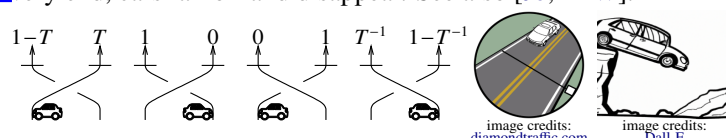


image credits: diamondtraffic.com

image credits: Dall-E

## Preliminaries

This is Rho.nb of <http://drorbn.net/oa22/ap>.

Once [`<< KnotTheory``; `<< Rot.m`];

Loading KnotTheory` version

of February 2, 2020, 10:53:45.2097.

Read more at <http://katlas.org/wiki/KnotTheory>.

Loading Rot.m from <http://drorbn.net/la22/ap>  
to compute rotation numbers.

## The Program

```
R1[s_, i_, j_] :=
  S (g_{ji} (g_{j+,j} + g_{j,j+} - g_{ij}) - g_{ii} (g_{j,j+} - 1) - 1/2);
Z[K_] := Module[{Cs, phi, n, A, s, i, j, k, Delta, G, rho1},
  {Cs, phi} = Rot[K]; n = Length[Cs];
  A = IdentityMatrix[2 n + 1];
  Cases[Cs, {s_, i_, j_} ->
    (A[[{i, j}, {i + 1, j + 1}]] += ( -T^s T^s - 1 ))];
  Delta = T^(-Total[phi] - Total[Cs[[All, 1]]]) / 2 Det[A];
  G = Inverse[A];
  rho1 = Sum_{k=1}^n R1 @@ Cs[[k]] - Sum_{k=1}^{2n} phi[[k]] (g_{kk} - 1/2);
  Factor@
    {Delta, Delta^2 rho1 /. alpha_+ -> alpha + 1 /. g_{alpha, beta} -> G[[alpha, beta]]};
```

## The First Few Knots

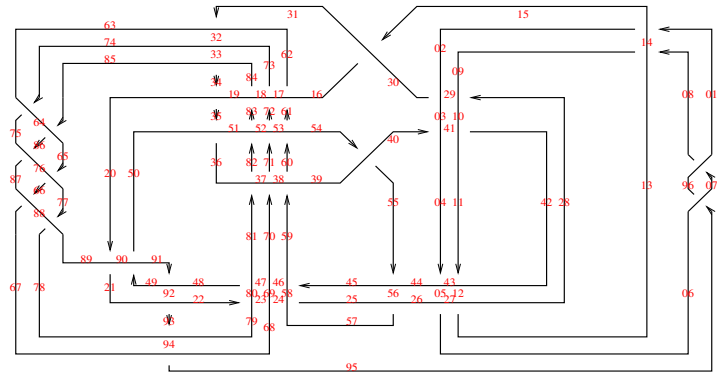
```
TableForm[Table[Join[{K[[1]]_K[[2]]}, Z[K]],
  {K, AllKnots[{3, 6]}], TableAlignments -> Center}]
```

$3_1$	$\frac{1-T+T^2}{T}$	$\frac{(-1+T)^2(1+T^2)}{T^2}$
$4_1$	$-\frac{1-3T+T^2}{T}$	$0$
$5_1$	$\frac{1-T+T^2-T^3+T^4}{T^2}$	$\frac{(-1+T)^2(1+T^2)(2+T^2+2T^4)}{T^4}$
$5_2$	$\frac{2-3T+2T^2}{T}$	$\frac{(-1+T)^2(5-4T+5T^2)}{T^2}$
$6_1$	$-\frac{(-2+T)(-1+2T)}{T}$	$\frac{(-1+T)^2(1-4T+T^2)}{T^2}$
$6_2$	$-\frac{1-3T+3T^2-3T^3+T^4}{T^2}$	$\frac{(-1+T)^2(1-4T+4T^2-4T^3+4T^4-4T^5+T^6)}{T^4}$
$6_3$	$\frac{1-3T+5T^2-3T^3+T^4}{T^2}$	$0$



$$p = 1 - T^s$$

## Fast!



## Timing@

```
Z[GST48 = EPD[X14,1, X2,29, X3,40, X43,4, X26,5, X6,95,
  X96,7, X13,8, X9,28, X10,41, X42,11, X27,12, X30,15,
  X16,61, X17,72, X18,83, X19,34, X89,20, X21,92,
  X79,22, X68,23, X57,24, X25,56, X62,31, X73,32,
  X84,33, X50,35, X36,81, X37,70, X38,59, X39,54, X44,55,
  X58,45, X69,46, X80,47, X48,91, X90,49, X51,82, X52,71,
  X53,60, X63,74, X64,85, X76,65, X87,66, X67,94,
  X75,86, X88,77, X78,93]]]
```

$$\{170.313, \left\{ -\frac{1}{T^8} (-1 + 2T - T^2 - T^3 + 2T^4 - T^5 + T^8) \right.$$

$$\left. (-1 + T^3 - 2T^4 + T^5 + T^6 - 2T^7 + T^8), \frac{1}{T^{16}} \right.$$

$$\left. (-1 + T)^2 (5 - 18T + 33T^2 - 32T^3 + 2T^4 + 42T^5 - 62T^6 - 8T^7 + 166T^8 - 242T^9 + 108T^{10} + 132T^{11} - 226T^{12} + 148T^{13} - 11T^{14} - 36T^{15} - 11T^{16} + 148T^{17} - 226T^{18} + 132T^{19} + 108T^{20} - 242T^{21} + 166T^{22} - 8T^{23} - 62T^{24} + 42T^{25} + 2T^{26} - 32T^{27} + 33T^{28} - 18T^{29} + 5T^{30}) \right\}$$

## Strong!

```
{NumberOfKnots[{3, 12}],
```

```
Length@
```

```
Union@Table[Z[K], {K, AllKnots[{3, 12]}]},
```

```
Length@
```

```
Union@Table[{HOMFLYPT[K], Kh[K]},
```

```
{K, AllKnots[{3, 12]}]}]
```

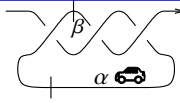
```
{2977, 2882, 2785}
```

So the pair  $(\Delta, \rho_1)$  attains 2,882 distinct values on the 2,977 prime knots with up to 12 crossings (a deficit of 95), whereas the pair (HOMFLYPT, Khovanov Homology) attains only 2,785 distinct values on the same knots (a deficit of 192).

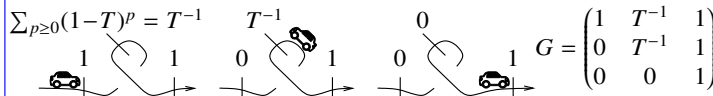


Hoste Ocneanu Millett Freyd Lickorish Yetter Przytycki Traczyk Khovanov

**Theorem.** The Green function  $g_{\alpha\beta}$  is the reading of a traffic counter at  $\beta$ , if car traffic is injected at  $\alpha$  (if  $\alpha = \beta$ , the counter is *after* the injection point).



**Example.**



**Proof.** Near a crossing  $c$  with sign  $s$ , incoming upper edge  $i$  and incoming lower edge  $j$ , both sides satisfy the  $g$ -rules:

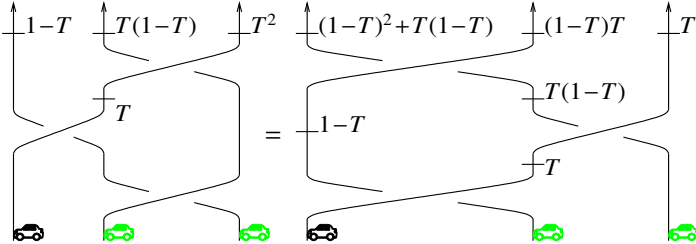
$$g_{i\beta} = \delta_{i\beta} + T^s g_{i+1,\beta} + (1 - T^s) g_{j+1,\beta}, \quad g_{j\beta} = \delta_{j\beta} + g_{j+1,\beta},$$

and always,  $g_{\alpha,2n+1} = 1$ : use common sense and  $AG = I (= GA)$ .

**Bonus.** Near  $c$ , both sides satisfy the further  $g$ -rules:

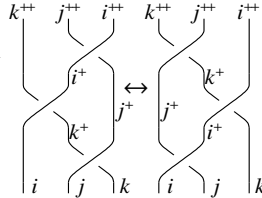
$$g_{\alpha i} = T^{-s}(g_{\alpha,i+1} - \delta_{\alpha,i+1}), \quad g_{\alpha j} = g_{\alpha,j+1} - (1 - T^s)g_{\alpha i} - \delta_{\alpha,j+1}.$$

**Invariance of  $\rho_1$ .** We start with the hardest, Reidemeister 3:



$\Rightarrow$  Overall traffic patterns are unaffected by Reid3!  
 $\Rightarrow$  Green's  $g_{\alpha\beta}$  is unchanged by Reid3, provided the cars injection site  $\alpha$  and the traffic counters  $\beta$  are away.

$\Rightarrow$  Only the contribution from the  $R_1$  terms within the Reid3 move matters, and using  $g$ -rules the relevant  $g_{\alpha\beta}$ 's can be pushed outside of the Reid3 area:



$$\delta_{i_-,j_-} := \text{If}[i == j, 1, 0];$$

$$gRules_{s_-,i_-,j_-} :=$$

$$\begin{aligned} \{ & g_{i\beta_-} \mapsto \delta_{i\beta_-} + T^s g_{i^+,\beta} + (1 - T^s) g_{j^+,\beta}, \quad g_{j\beta_-} \mapsto \delta_{j\beta_-} + g_{j^+,\beta}, \\ & g_{\alpha,i} \mapsto T^{-s} (g_{\alpha,i^+} - \delta_{\alpha,i^+}), \\ & g_{\alpha,j} \mapsto g_{\alpha,j^+} - (1 - T^s) g_{\alpha i} - \delta_{\alpha,j^+} \} \end{aligned}$$

$$lhs = R_1[1, j, k] + R_1[1, i, k^+] + R_1[1, i^+, j^+] // .$$

$$gRules_{1,j,k} \cup gRules_{1,i,k^+} \cup gRules_{1,i^+,j^+};$$

$$rhs = R_1[1, i, j] + R_1[1, i^+, k] + R_1[1, j^+, k^+] // .$$

$$gRules_{1,i,j} \cup gRules_{1,i^+,k} \cup gRules_{1,j^+,k^+};$$

**Simplify**[lhs == rhs]

True

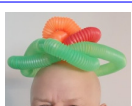
Next comes Reid1, where we use results from an earlier example:

$$R_1[1, 2, 1] - 1 (g_{22} - 1/2) / . \quad g_{\alpha,-,\beta} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} 1 & T^{-1} & 1 \\ 0 & T^{-1} & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \llbracket \alpha, \beta \rrbracket$$

$$\frac{1}{T^2} - \frac{1}{T} - \frac{-1 + \frac{1}{T}}{T} = \text{loop}$$

Invariance under the other moves is proven similarly.

**Wearing my Topology hat** the formula for  $R_1$ , and even the idea to look for  $R_1$ , remain a complete mystery to me.



**Wearing my Quantum Algebra hat**, I spy a Heisenberg algebra  $\mathbb{H} = A\langle p, x \rangle / ([p, x] = 1)$ :

$$\text{cars} \leftrightarrow p \quad \text{traffic counters} \leftrightarrow x$$

**Where did it come from?** Consider  $g_\epsilon := sl_{2+}^\epsilon := L\langle y, b, a, x \rangle$  with relations

$$[b, x] = \epsilon x, \quad [b, y] = -\epsilon y, \quad [b, a] = 0,$$

$$[a, x] = x, \quad [a, y] = -y, \quad [x, y] = b + \epsilon a.$$

At invertible  $\epsilon$ , it is isomorphic to  $sl_2$  plus a central factor, and it can be quantized à la Drinfel'd [Dr] much like  $sl_2$  to get an algebra  $QU = A\langle y, b, a, x \rangle$  subject to (with  $q = e^{\hbar\epsilon}$ ):

$$[b, a] = 0, \quad [b, x] = \epsilon x, \quad [b, y] = -\epsilon y,$$

$$[a, x] = x, \quad [a, y] = -y, \quad xy - qyx = \frac{1 - e^{-\hbar(b+\epsilon a)}}{\hbar}.$$

Now  $QU$  has an  $R$ -matrix solving Yang-Baxter (meaning Reid3),

$$R = \sum_{m,n \geq 0} \frac{y^m b^m \otimes (\hbar a)^m (\hbar x)^n}{m! [n]_q!}, \quad ([n]_q! \text{ is a "quantum factorial"})$$

and so it has an associated "universal quantum invariant" à la Lawrence and Ohtsuki [La, Oh1],  $Z_\epsilon(K) \in QU$ .

Now  $QU \cong \mathcal{U}(g_\epsilon)$  (only as algebras!) and  $\mathcal{U}(g_\epsilon)$  represents into  $\mathbb{H}$  via

$$y \rightarrow -tp - \epsilon \cdot xp^2, \quad b \rightarrow t + \epsilon \cdot xp, \quad a \rightarrow xp, \quad x \rightarrow x,$$

(abstractly,  $g_\epsilon$  acts on its Verma module

$$\mathcal{U}(g_\epsilon) / (\mathcal{U}(g_\epsilon)\langle y, a, b - \epsilon a - t \rangle) \cong \mathbb{Q}[x]$$

by differential operators, namely via  $\mathbb{H}$ ), so  $R$  can be pushed to  $\mathcal{R} \in \mathbb{H} \otimes \mathbb{H}$ .

Everything still makes sense at  $\epsilon = 0$  and can be expanded near  $\epsilon = 0$  resulting with  $\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{R}_0(1 + \epsilon \mathcal{R}_1 + \dots)$ , with  $\mathcal{R}_0 = e^{t(xp \otimes 1 - x \otimes p)}$  and  $\mathcal{R}_1$  a quartic polynomial in  $p$  and  $x$ . So  $p$ 's and  $x$ 's get created along  $K$  and need to be pushed around to a standard location ("normal ordering"). This is done using

$$(p \otimes 1)\mathcal{R}_0 = \mathcal{R}_0(T(p \otimes 1) + (1 - T)(1 \otimes p)),$$

$$(1 \otimes p)\mathcal{R}_0 = \mathcal{R}_0(1 \otimes p),$$

and when the dust settles, we get our formulas for  $\rho_1$ . But  $QU$  is a quasi-triangular Hopf algebra, and hence  $\rho_1$  is **homomorphic**. Read more at [BV1, BV2] and hear more at  $\omega\epsilon\beta/\text{SolvApp}$ ,  $\omega\epsilon\beta/\text{Dogma}$ ,  $\omega\epsilon\beta/\text{DoPeGDO}$ ,  $\omega\epsilon\beta/\text{FDA}$ ,  $\omega\epsilon\beta/\text{AQDW}$ .

Also, we can (and know how to) look at higher powers of  $\epsilon$  and we can (and more or less know how to) replace  $sl_2$  by arbitrary semi-simple Lie algebra (e.g., [Sch]). So  $\rho_1$  is **not alone!**



Schaveling

These constructions are very similar to Rozansky-Overbay [Ro1, Ro2, Ro3, Ov] and hence to the "loop expansion" of the Kontsevich integral and the coloured Jones polynomial [Oh2].

If this all reads like **insanity** to you, it should (and you haven't seen half of it). Simple things should have simple explanations.

Hence, **Homework**. Explain  $\rho_1$  with no reference to quantum voodoo and find it a topology home (large enough to house generalizations!). Make explicit the homomorphic properties of  $\rho_1$ . Use them to do topology!

**P.S.** As a friend of  $\Delta$ ,  $\rho_1$  gives a genus bound, sometimes better than  $\Delta$ 's. How much further does this friendship extend?

**A Small-Print Page on  $\rho_d, d > 1$ .**

**Definition.**  $\langle f(z_i), h(\zeta_i) \rangle_{\zeta_i=0} := f(\partial_{\zeta_i})h|_{\zeta_i=0}$ , so  $\langle p^2 x^2, \otimes^{8\pi\epsilon} \rangle = 2g^2$ .

**Baby Theorem.** There exist (non unique) power series  $r^\pm(p_1, p_2, x_1, x_2) = \sum_d \epsilon^d r_d^\pm(p_1, p_2, x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{Q}[T^{\pm 1}, p_1, p_2, x_1, x_2][[\epsilon]]$  with  $\deg r_d^\pm \leq 2d + 2$  ("docile") such that the power series  $Z^b = \sum \rho_d^b \epsilon^d :=$

$$\left\langle \exp\left(\sum_c r^s(p_i, p_j, x_i, x_j)\right), \exp\left(\sum_{\alpha, \beta} g_{\alpha\beta} \pi_\alpha \xi_\beta\right) \right\rangle_{\{p_\alpha, \bar{x}_\beta\}}$$

is a bnot invariant. Beyond the once-and-for-all computation of  $g_{\alpha\beta}$  (a matrix inversion),  $Z^b$  is computable in  $O(n^d)$  operations in the ring  $\mathbb{Q}[T^{\pm 1}]$ .

(Bnots are knot diagrams modulo the braid-like Reidemeister moves, but not the cyclic ones).

**Theorem.** There also exist docile power series  $\gamma^\varphi(\bar{p}, \bar{x}) = \sum_d \epsilon^d \gamma_d^\varphi \in \mathbb{Q}[T^{\pm 1}, \bar{p}, \bar{x}][[\epsilon]]$  such that the power series  $Z = \sum \rho_d \epsilon^d :=$

$$\left\langle \exp\left(\sum_c r^s(p_i, p_j, x_i, x_j) + \sum_k \gamma^{\varphi_k}(\bar{p}_k, \bar{x}_k)\right), \exp\left(\sum_{\alpha, \beta} g_{\alpha\beta}(\pi_\alpha + \bar{\pi}_\alpha)(\xi_\beta + \bar{\xi}_\beta) + \sum_\alpha \pi_\alpha \bar{\xi}_\alpha\right) \right\rangle_{\{p_\alpha, \bar{p}_\alpha, \bar{x}_\beta, \bar{\xi}_\beta\}}$$

is a knot invariant, as easily computable as  $Z^b$ .

**Implementation.** Data, then program (with output using the Conway variable  $z = \sqrt{T} - 1 / \sqrt{T}$ ), and then a demo. See `Rho.nb` of `wεβ/ap`.

```
V@r_{1, \varphi}[k_] := \varphi (1/2 - \bar{p}_k \bar{x}_k); V@r_{2, \varphi}[k_] := -\varphi^2 \bar{p}_k \bar{x}_k / 2;
V@r_{3, \varphi}[k_] := -\varphi^3 \bar{p}_k \bar{x}_k / 6
```

```
V@r_{1, s}[i_, j_] :=
s (-1 + 2 p_i x_i - 2 p_j x_j + (-1 + T^5) p_i p_j x_i^2 + (1 - T^5) p_j^2 x_i^2 - 2 p_i p_j x_i x_j + 2 p_j^2 x_i x_j) / 2
```

```
V@r_{2, 1}[i_, j_] :=
(-6 p_i x_i + 6 p_j x_j - 3 (-1 + 3 T) p_i p_j x_i^2 + 3 (-1 + 3 T) p_j^2 x_i^2 + 4 (-1 + T) p_i^2 p_j x_i^3 -
2 (-1 + T) (5 + T) p_i p_j^2 x_i^2 + 2 (-1 + T) (3 + T) p_j^3 x_i^2 + 18 p_i p_j x_i x_j -
18 p_j^2 x_i x_j - 6 p_i^2 p_j x_i^2 x_j + 6 (2 + T) p_i p_j^2 x_i^2 x_j - 6 (1 + T) p_j^3 x_i^2 x_j -
6 p_i p_j^2 x_i x_j^2 + 6 p_j^3 x_i x_j^2) / 12
```

```
V@r_{2, -1}[i_, j_] :=
(-6 T^2 p_i x_i + 6 T^2 p_j x_j + 3 (-3 + T) T p_i p_j x_i^2 - 3 (-3 + T) T p_j^2 x_i^2 -
4 (-1 + T) T p_i^2 p_j x_i^3 + 2 (-1 + T) (1 + 5 T) p_i p_j^2 x_i^2 - 2 (-1 + T) (1 + 3 T) p_j^3 x_i^2 +
18 T^2 p_i p_j x_i x_j - 18 T^2 p_j^2 x_i x_j - 6 T^2 p_i^2 p_j x_i^2 x_j + 6 T (1 + 2 T) p_i p_j^2 x_i^2 x_j -
6 T (1 + T) p_j^3 x_i^2 x_j - 6 T^2 p_i p_j^2 x_i x_j^2 + 6 T^2 p_j^3 x_i x_j^2) / (12 T^2)
```

`Z2[GST48]` (\* takes a few minutes \*)

```
{1 - 4 z^2 - 61 z^4 - 207 z^6 - 296 z^8 - 210 z^10 - 77 z^12 - 14 z^14 - z^16,
1 + (38 z^2 + 255 z^4 + 1696 z^6 + 16281 z^8 + 86952 z^10 + 259994 z^12 + 487372 z^14 + 615066 z^16 + 543148 z^18 + 341714 z^20 +
153722 z^22 + 48983 z^24 + 10776 z^26 + 1554 z^28 + 132 z^30 + 5 z^32) \epsilon +
(-8 - 484 z^2 + 9709 z^4 + 165952 z^6 + 1590491 z^8 + 16256508 z^10 + 115341797 z^12 + 432685748 z^14 + 395838354 z^16 - 4017557792 z^18 - 23300064167 z^20 -
70082264972 z^22 - 142572271191 z^24 - 209475503700 z^26 - 221616295209 z^28 - 151502648428 z^30 - 23700199243 z^32 +
99462146328 z^34 + 164920463074 z^36 + 162550825432 z^38 + 119164552296 z^40 + 69153062608 z^42 + 32547596611 z^44 + 12541195448 z^46 +
3961384155 z^48 + 1021219696 z^50 + 212773106 z^52 + 35264208 z^54 + 4537548 z^56 + 436600 z^58 + 29536 z^60 + 1252 z^62 + 25 z^64) \epsilon^2}
```

`TableForm[Table[Join[{K[[1]][K[[2]]], Z3[K]}, {K, AllKnots[{3, 6}]}], TableAlignments -> Center]` (\* takes a few minutes \*)

$3_1$	$1 + z^2$	$1 + (2z^2 + z^4) \epsilon + (2 - 4z^2 + 3z^4 + 4z^6 + z^8) \epsilon^2 + (-12 + 74z^2 - 27z^4 - 20z^6 + 8z^8 + 6z^{10} + z^{12}) \epsilon^3$
$4_1$	$1 - z^2$	$1 + (-2 + 2z^2) \epsilon^2$
$5_1$	$1 + 3z^2 + z^4$	$1 + (10z^2 + 21z^4 + 12z^6 + 2z^8) \epsilon + (6 - 28z^2 + 33z^4 + 364z^6 + 655z^8 + 536z^{10} + 227z^{12} + 48z^{14} + 4z^{16}) \epsilon^2 + (-60 + 970z^2 + 645z^4 - 3380z^6 - 3280z^8 + 7470z^{10} + 19475z^{12} + 20536z^{14} + 12564z^{16} - 4774z^{18} + 1109z^{20} + 144z^{22} + 8z^{24}) \epsilon^3$
$5_2$	$1 + 2z^2$	$1 + (6z^2 + 5z^4) \epsilon + (4 - 20z^2 + 43z^4 + 64z^6 + 26z^8) \epsilon^2 + (-36 + 498z^2 - 883z^4 + 100z^6 + 816z^8 + 556z^{10} - 146z^{12}) \epsilon^3$
$6_1$	$1 - 2z^2$	$1 + (-2z^2 + z^4) \epsilon + (-4 + 4z^2 + 25z^4 - 8z^6 + 2z^8) \epsilon^2 + (12 - 154z^2 - 223z^4 - 608z^6 - 100z^8 - 52z^{10} + 10z^{12}) \epsilon^3$
$6_2$	$1 - z^2 - z^4$	$1 + (-2z^2 - 3z^4 + 2z^6 + z^8) \epsilon + (-2 - 4z^2 + 29z^4 + 28z^6 + 42z^8 - 8z^{10} - 2z^{12} + 4z^{14} + 2z^{16}) \epsilon^2 + (12 + 166z^2 + 155z^4 - 194z^6 - 2453z^8 - 1622z^{10} - 1967z^{12} - 258z^{14} + 49z^{16} - 30z^{18} + z^{20} + 6z^{22} + z^{24}) \epsilon^3$
$6_3$	$1 + z^2 + z^4$	$1 + (2 + 8z^2 - 16z^4 - 24z^6 - 16z^{10} - 2z^{12}) \epsilon^2$

```
V@r_{3, 1}[i_, j_] :=
(4 p_i x_i - 4 p_j x_j + 2 (5 + 7 T) p_i p_j x_i^2 - 2 (5 + 7 T) p_j^2 x_i^2 - 4 (-5 + 6 T) p_i^2 p_j x_i^3 +
4 (-16 + 17 T + 2 T^2) p_i p_j^2 x_i^2 - 4 (-11 + 11 T + 2 T^2) p_j^3 x_i^2 + 3 (-1 + T) p_i^3 p_j x_i^3 -
3 (-1 + T) (4 + 3 T) p_i^2 p_j^2 x_i^2 + (-1 + T) (13 + 22 T + T^2) p_i p_j^3 x_i^2 -
(-1 + T) (4 + 13 T + T^2) p_j^4 x_i^2 - 28 p_i p_j x_i x_j + 28 p_j^2 x_i x_j + 36 p_i^2 p_j x_i^2 x_j -
12 (9 + 2 T) p_i p_j^2 x_i^2 x_j + 24 (3 + T) p_j^3 x_i^2 x_j - 4 p_i^3 p_j x_i^3 x_j + 28 T p_i^2 p_j^2 x_i^2 x_j -
4 (-6 + 17 T + T^2) p_i p_j^3 x_i^2 x_j + 4 (-5 + 10 T + T^2) p_j^4 x_i^2 x_j + 24 p_i p_j^2 x_i x_j^2 -
24 p_j^3 x_i x_j^2 - 24 p_i^2 p_j^2 x_i^2 x_j^2 + 6 (10 + T) p_i p_j^3 x_i^2 x_j^2 - 6 (6 + T) p_j^4 x_i^2 x_j^2 -
4 p_i p_j^3 x_i x_j^2 + 4 p_j^4 x_i x_j^2) / 24
```

```
V@r_{3, -1}[i_, j_] :=
(-4 T^3 p_i x_i + 4 T^3 p_j x_j - 2 T^2 (7 + 5 T) p_i p_j x_i^2 + 2 T^2 (7 + 5 T) p_j^2 x_i^2 -
4 T^2 (-6 + 5 T) p_i^2 p_j x_i^3 + 4 T (-2 - 17 T + 16 T^2) p_i p_j^2 x_i^2 -
4 T (-2 - 11 T + 11 T^2) p_j^3 x_i^2 + 3 (-1 + T) T^2 p_i p_j x_i^3 - 3 (-1 + T) T (3 + 4 T) p_i^2 p_j^2 x_i^3 +
(-1 + T) (1 + 22 T + 13 T^2) p_i p_j^3 x_i^2 - (-1 + T) (1 + 13 T + 4 T^2) p_j^4 x_i^2 +
28 T^3 p_i p_j x_i x_j - 28 T^3 p_j^2 x_i x_j - 36 T^3 p_i^2 p_j x_i^2 x_j + 12 T^2 (2 + 9 T) p_i p_j^2 x_i^2 x_j -
24 T^2 (1 + 3 T) p_j^3 x_i^2 x_j + 4 T^3 p_i^3 p_j x_i^3 x_j - 28 T^2 p_i^2 p_j^2 x_i^2 x_j -
4 T (-1 - 17 T + 6 T^2) p_i p_j^3 x_i^2 x_j + 4 T (-1 - 10 T + 5 T^2) p_j^4 x_i^2 x_j -
24 T^3 p_i p_j^2 x_i^2 x_j^2 + 24 T^3 p_j^3 x_i x_j^2 + 24 T^2 p_i^2 p_j^2 x_i^2 x_j^2 - 6 T^2 (1 + 10 T) p_i p_j^3 x_i^2 x_j^2 +
6 T^2 (1 + 6 T) p_j^4 x_i^2 x_j^2 + 4 T^3 p_i p_j^3 x_i x_j^2 - 4 T^3 p_j^4 x_i x_j^2) / (24 T^3)
```

```
{p*, x*, \bar{p}*, \bar{x}*, \pi, \epsilon, \bar{\pi}, \bar{\epsilon}}; (z_{i-})^* := (z^*)^i;
Zip_{(i)}[e_] := e;
Zip_{(z, z_s...)}[e_] :=
(Collect[e // Zip_{(z_s)}[z] /. f_ -> z^{d_} -> (D[f, {z^*, d}])] /. z^* -> \theta)
```

```
gPair[f_s_, w_] :=
gPair[f_s, w] =
Collect[Zip_{Join@Table[{p_\alpha, \bar{p}_\alpha, x_\alpha, \bar{x}_\alpha}, {\alpha, w}]} [
(Times@@(V@f_s))
Exp[Sum[g_{\alpha, \beta} (\pi_\alpha + \bar{\pi}_\alpha) (\xi_\beta + \bar{\xi}_\beta), {\alpha, w}, {\beta, w}] - Sum[\bar{\xi}_\alpha \pi_\alpha, {\alpha, w}]]],
g_., Factor]
```

```
T2z[p_] := Module[{q = Expand[p], n, c},
If[q == 0, \theta, c = Coefficient[q, T, n = Exponent[q, T]];
c z^{2n} + T2z[q - c (T^{1/2} - T^{-1/2})^{2n}]]];
```

```
Z_d[K_] := Module[{CS, \varphi, n, A, s, i, j, k, \Delta, G, d1, Z1, Z2, Z3},
{CS, \varphi} = Rot[K]; n = Length[CS]; A = IdentityMatrix[2 n + 1];
Cases[CS, {s_, i_, j_} -> {A[[{i, j}], {i + 1, j + 1}]}] += {{-T^5 T^5 - 1} / \theta};
{\Delta, G} = Factor@{T^{-Total[\varphi] - Total[CS[[All, 1]]]} / 2 Det@A, Inverse@A};
Z1 =
Exp[Total[Cases[CS, {s_, i_, j_} -> Sum[e^{d1} r_{d1, s}[i, j], {d1, d}]]] +
Sum[e^{d1} \gamma_{d1, \varphi}[k], {k, 2 n}], {d1, d}] /. \gamma_{\theta}[\_] -> \theta;
Z2 = Expand[F[{}, {}] \times Normal@Series[Z1, {e, \theta, d}]] /.
F[f_s_, {e_s...}] \times (f : (r | \gamma)_{p_s...}[i_s...])^{p_s...} ->
F[Join[f_s, Table[f, p]], DeleteDuplicates@{e_s, i_s}];
Z3 = Expand[Z2 /. F[f_s_, e_s_] -> Expand[gPair[
Replace[f_s, Thread[e_s -> Range[Length@e_s], {2}], Length@e_s
] /. g_{\alpha, \beta} -> G[[e_s[[\alpha]], e_s[[\beta]]]]];
Collect[{Z1, Z3 /. e^{p_s...} -> p! \Delta^{2p} e^p}, e, T2z];
```



# Computing the Zombian of an Unfinished Columbarium

Confession. It's about 50% of what I do.

**Apology.** It's a 20 minutes talk. Necessarily, it will be superficial.  
**Abstract.** The zombies need to compute a quantity, the zombian, that pertains to some structure — say, a columbarium. But unfortunately (for them), a part of that structure will only be known in the future. What can they compute today with the parts they already have to hasten tomorrow's computation?

That's a common quest, and I will illustrate it with a few examples from knot theory and with two examples about matrices — determinants and signatures. I will also mention two of my dreams (perhaps delusions): that one day I will be able to reproduce, and extend, the Rolfsen table of knots using code of the highest level of beauty.



Columbaria in an East Sydney Cemetery



Jacobian, Hamiltonian, Zombian

## Computing Zombians of Unfinished Columbaria.

- Future zombies must be able to complete the computation.
- Must be no slower than for finished ones.
- Future zombies must not even know the size of the task that today's zombies were facing.
- We must be able to extend to ZPUCs, Zombie Processed Unfinished Columbaria!



Columbarium near Assen

**Exercise 1.** Compute the sum of 1,000 numbers, the last 50 of which are still unknown.

**Exercise 2.** Compute the determinant of a  $1,000 \times 1,000$  matrix in which 50 entries are not yet given.

**Example 3.** Same, for signatures of matrices / quadratic forms.

A **quadratic form** on a v.s.  $V$  over  $\mathbb{C}$  is a quadratic  $Q: V \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ , or a sesquilinear Hermitian  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  on  $V \times V$  (so  $\langle x, y \rangle = \langle y, x \rangle$  and  $Q(y) = \langle y, y \rangle$ ), or given a basis  $\eta_i$  of  $V^*$ , a matrix  $A = (a_{ij})$  with  $A = \bar{A}^T$  and  $Q = \sum a_{ij} \eta_i \eta_j$ . The **signature**  $\sigma$  of  $Q$  is  $\sigma_+ - \sigma_-$ , where for some  $P$ ,  $\bar{P}^T A P = \text{diag}(1, \dots, 1, -1, \dots, -1, 0, \dots)$ .

A **Partial Quadratic (PQ)** on  $V$  is a quadratic  $Q$  defined only on a subspace  $\mathcal{D}_Q \subset V$ . We add PQs with  $\mathcal{D}_{Q_1+Q_2} := \mathcal{D}_{Q_1} \cap \mathcal{D}_{Q_2}$ . Given a linear  $\psi: V \rightarrow W$  and a PQ  $Q$  on  $W$ , there is an obvious **pullback**  $\psi^*Q$ , a PQ on  $V$ .

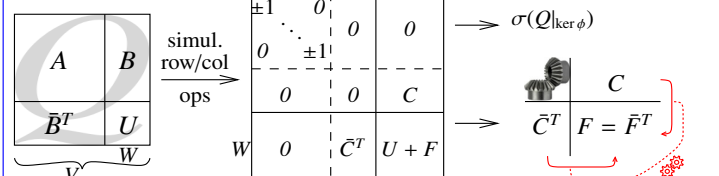
**Theorem 1** (with Jessica Liu). Given a linear  $\phi: V \rightarrow W$  and a PQ  $Q$  on  $V$ , there is a unique **pushforward** PQ  $\phi_*Q$  on  $W$  such that for every PQ  $U$  on  $W$ ,

$$\sigma_V(Q + \phi^*U) = \sigma_{\ker \phi}(Q|_{\ker \phi}) + \sigma_W(U + \phi_*Q).$$



Jessica Liu

### Gist of the Proof.



... and the quadratic  $F := \phi_*Q$  is well-defined only on  $D := \ker C$ . (more at œβ/icerm.)

**Acknowledgement.** This work was partially supported by NSERC grant RGPIN-2018-04350 and by the Chu Family Foundation (NYC).

## Knots and Tangles.

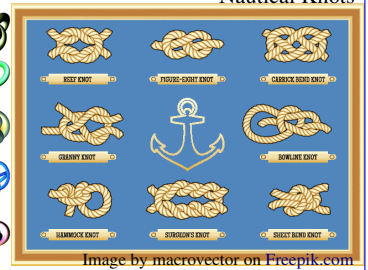


Image by macrovector on Freepik.com

**Why Tangles?** • As common as knots!

- Faster computations!
- Conceptually clearer proofs of invariance (and of skein relations).
- Often fun and consequential:
  - The Alexander polynomial  $\rightsquigarrow$  Zombian = det.
  - Knot signatures  $\rightsquigarrow$  Pushforwards of quadratic forms.
  - The Jones Polynomial  $\rightsquigarrow$  The Temperley-Lieb Algebra.
  - Khovanov Homology  $\rightsquigarrow$  "Unfinished complexes", complexes in a category.
  - The Kontsevich Integral  $\rightsquigarrow$  Drinfel'd Associators. ...

$$2^{n/2} + 2^{n/2} + 2\sqrt{n} \ll 2^n$$

## One more story is left to tell, of knot tabulation.

Two slides from R. Jason Parsley's œβ/history:

**Brief History of (Prime) Knot Tabulation**

Gauss knew and thought about knots – 1833 integral formula for linking number. Before him, Vandermonde (1771) wrote a seminal paper on topology & discussed knots.

**Atomic model (Kelvin, late 1800's)**  
Atoms are knotted vortices in the ether.

This theory, albeit vastly incorrect, led to the first serious work in knot theory.

- Tait (1876), a colleague of Kelvin – knots to 7 crossings
- Kirkman (1885, British) – knot projections
- Little (1885, Nebraska) – knots to 10 crossings
- by 1900, Tait, Kirkman, Little had produced all  $\leq 10$  crossing knots and all 11 crossing alternating knots

**Brief History of Knot Tabulation III**

- Conway (1964) Knots to 11 crossings; links to 10 crossings; errors.
- Rolfsen (1976) Knots to 10 crossings. 1 error.
- Caudron (1978) – knots to 11 crossings correctly.
- Doll/Hoste (1991) Oriented links to 10 crossings.
- Cerf (1998) Oriented alt. links to 10 crossings.
- Hoste/Thistlethwaite/Weeks (1998) 1,701,936 knots to 16 crossings; determined chirality
- Film/Rankin (2007) 98,517,495,461 alternating links to 23 crossings.

All of these are for prime knots only!!!

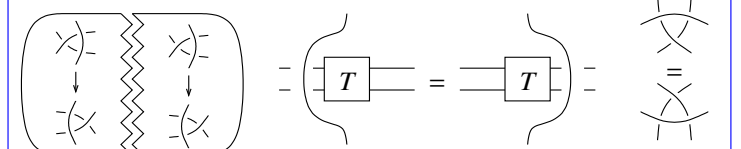
There's also Burton's tabulation to 19 crossings œβ/Burton, and Khesin's K250, arXiv:1705.10319.

**Embarrassment 1 (personal).** I don't know how to reproduce the Rolfsen table of knots! Many others can, yet I still take it on faith, contradicting one of the tenets of our practice, "thou shalt not use what thou canst not prove".

It's harder than it seems! Producing all knot diagrams is a mess, identifying all available Reidemeister moves is a mess, and you sometimes have to go up in crossing number before you can go down again.

**Embarrassment 2 (communal).** There isn't anywhere a tabulation of tangles! When you want to test your new discoveries, where do you go?

**Dream.** Conquer both embarrassments at once. Reproduce the Rolfsen table, and extend it to tangles, using code of the highest level of beauty. The algorithm should be so clear and simple that anyone should be able to easily implement it in an afternoon without messing with any technicalities.



We don't even need to look at all knot diagrams!

The dreaded slide moves, which go up in crossing number, are parameterized by tangles!

R-moves are tangle equalities!

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \rightsquigarrow \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \rightsquigarrow \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \rightsquigarrow \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$$



# Tangles in a Pole Dance Studio: A Reading of Massuyeau, Alekseev, and Naef

**Preliminary Definitions.** Fix  $p \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\mathbb{F} = \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{C}$ . Let  $D_p := D^2 \setminus (p \text{ pts})$ , and let the **Pole Dance Studio** be  $PDS_p := D_p \times I$ .



**Abstract.** I will report on joint work with Zsuzsanna Dancso, Tamara Hogan, Jessica Liu, and Nancy Scherich. Little of what we do is original, and much of it is simply a reading of Massuyeau [Ma] and Alekseev and Naef [AN1].



We study the pole-strand and strand-strand double filtration on the space of tangles in a pole dance studio (a punctured disk cross an interval), the corresponding homomorphic expansions, and a strand-only HOMFLY-PT relation. When the strands are transparent or nearly transparent to each other we recover and perhaps simplify substantial parts of the work of the aforementioned authors on expansions for the Goldman-Turaev Lie bi-algebra.



Jessica, Nancy, Tamara, Zsuzsi, & Dror in PDS<sub>3</sub>

**Definitions.** Let  $\pi := FG\langle X_1, \dots, X_p \rangle$  be the free group (of deformation classes of based curves in  $D_p$ ),  $\bar{\pi}$  be the framed free group (deformation classes of based immersed curves),  $|\pi|$  and  $|\bar{\pi}|$  denote  $\mathbb{F}$ -linear combinations of cyclic words ( $|x_i w| = |w x_i|$ , unbased curves),  $A := FA\langle x_1, \dots, x_p \rangle$  be the free associative algebra, and let  $|A| := A/(x_i w = w x_i)$  denote cyclic algebra words.



**Theorem 1** (Goldman, Turaev, Massuyeau, Alekseev, Kawazumi, Kuno, Naef).  $|\bar{\pi}|$  and  $|A|$  are Lie bialgebras, and there is a “homomorphic expansion”  $W: |\bar{\pi}| \rightarrow |A|$ : a morphism of Lie bialgebras with  $W(|X_i|) = 1 + |x_i| + \dots$

**Further Definitions.** •  $\mathcal{K} = \mathcal{K}_0 = \mathcal{K}_0^0 = \mathcal{K}(S) := \mathbb{F}\langle \text{framed tangles in } PDS_p \rangle$ .  
•  $\mathcal{K}_i^s := (\text{the image via } \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y} - \mathcal{Z} \text{ of tangles in } PDS_p \text{ that have } t \text{ double points, of which } s \text{ are strand-strand})$ .



E.g.,  $\mathcal{K}_5^2(\bigcirc) = \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram with 5 crossings and 2 strand-strand double points} \end{array} \right\rangle / \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y} - \mathcal{Z}$   
•  $\mathcal{K}^s := \mathcal{K}/\mathcal{K}^s$ . Most important,  $\mathcal{K}^1(\bigcirc) = |\bar{\pi}|$ , and there is  $P: \mathcal{K}(\bigcirc) \rightarrow |\bar{\pi}|$ .  
•  $\mathcal{A} := \prod \mathcal{K}_i/\mathcal{K}_{i+1}$ ,  $\mathcal{A}^s := \prod \mathcal{K}_i^s/\mathcal{K}_{i+1}^s \subset \mathcal{A}$ ,  $\mathcal{A}^s := \mathcal{A}/\mathcal{A}^s$ .

**Fact 1.** The Kontsevich Integral is an “expansion”  $Z: \mathcal{K} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ , compatible with several noteworthy structures.

**Fact 2** (Le-Murakami, [LM1]).  $Z$  satisfies the strand-strand HOMFLY-PT relations: It descends to  $Z_H: \mathcal{K}_H \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_H$ , where

$$\mathcal{K}_H := \mathcal{K} / \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 1} \\ \text{Diagram 2} \end{array} = (e^{h/2} - e^{-h/2}) \cdot \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 3} \\ \text{Diagram 4} \end{array} \right)$$
$$\mathcal{A}_H := \mathcal{A} / \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 5} \\ \text{Diagram 6} \end{array} = \hbar \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 7} \\ \text{Diagram 8} \end{array} \text{ or } \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 9} \\ \text{Diagram 10} \end{array} = \hbar \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 11} \\ \text{Diagram 12} \end{array} \right)$$

and  $\deg \hbar = (1, 1)$ .

**Proof of Fact 2.**  $Z(\mathcal{X}) - Z(\mathcal{Y}) = \mathcal{X} \cdot (e^{h/2} - e^{-h/2}) \cdot \mathcal{Z}$   
 $= \mathcal{X} \cdot (e^{h/2} - e^{-h/2}) \cdot \mathcal{Z} = (e^{h/2} - e^{-h/2}) \mathcal{Z}$ .  $\square$



Le, Murakami

**Other Passions.** With Roland van der Veen, I use “solvable approximation” and “Perturbed Gaussian Differential Operators” to unveil simple, strong, fast to compute, and topologically meaningful knot invariants near the Alexander polynomial. ( $\subset$  polymath!)



van der Veen

**Key 1.**  $W: |\bar{\pi}| \rightarrow |A|$  is  $Z_H^1: \mathcal{K}_H^1(\bigcirc) \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_H^1(\bigcirc)$ .  
**Key 2** (Schematic). Suppose  $\lambda_0, \lambda_1: |\bar{\pi}| \rightarrow \mathcal{K}(\bigcirc)$  are two ways of lifting plane curves into knots in  $PDS_p$  (namely,  $P \circ \lambda_i = I$ ). Then for  $\gamma \in |\bar{\pi}|$ ,  
**Lemma 1.** “Division by  $\hbar$ ” is well-defined.

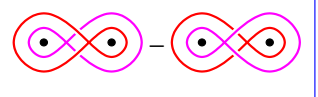
$$\eta(\gamma) := (\lambda_0(\gamma) - \lambda_1(\gamma))/\hbar \in \mathcal{K}_H^1(\bigcirc) = |\bar{\pi}| \otimes |\bar{\pi}|$$

and we get an operation  $\eta$  on plane curves. If Kontsevich likes  $\lambda_0$  and  $\lambda_1$  (namely if there are  $\lambda_i^q$  with  $Z^2(\lambda_i(\gamma)) = \lambda_i^q(W(\gamma))$ ), then  $\eta$  will have a compatible algebraic companion  $\eta^q$ :

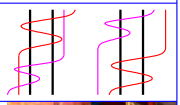
$$\eta^q(\alpha) := (\lambda_0^q(\alpha) - \lambda_1^q(\alpha))/\hbar \in \mathcal{A}_H^1(\bigcirc) = |A| \otimes |A|.$$

For indeed, in  $\mathcal{A}_H^2$  we have  $\hbar W(\eta(\gamma)) = \hbar Z(\eta(\gamma)) = Z(\lambda_0(\gamma)) - Z(\lambda_1(\gamma)) = \lambda_0^q(W(\gamma)) - \lambda_1^q(W(\gamma)) = \hbar \eta^q(W(\gamma))$ .

**Example 1.** With  $\gamma_1, \gamma_2 \in |\bar{\pi}|$  (or  $|\bar{\pi}|$ ) set  $\lambda_0(\gamma_1, \gamma_2) = \tilde{\gamma}_1 \cdot \tilde{\gamma}_2$  and  $\lambda_1(\gamma_1, \gamma_2) = \tilde{\gamma}_2 \cdot \tilde{\gamma}_1$  where  $\tilde{\gamma}_i$  are arbitrary lifts of  $\gamma_i$ . Then  $\eta_1$  is the Goldman bracket! Note that here  $\lambda_0$  and  $\lambda_1$  are not well-defined, yet  $\eta_1$  is.



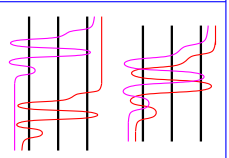
**Example 2.** With  $\gamma_1, \gamma_2 \in \pi$  (or  $\bar{\pi}$ ) and with  $\lambda_0, \lambda_1$  as on the right, we get the “double bracket”  $\eta_2: \pi \otimes \pi \rightarrow \pi \otimes \pi$  (or  $\bar{\pi} \otimes \bar{\pi} \rightarrow \bar{\pi} \otimes \bar{\pi}$ ).



**Example 3.** With  $\gamma \in \bar{\pi}$  and  $\lambda_0(\gamma)$  its ascending realization as a bottom tangle and  $\lambda_1(\gamma)$  its descending realization as a bottom tangle, we get  $\eta_3: \bar{\pi} \rightarrow \bar{\pi} \otimes |\bar{\pi}|$ . Closing the first component and anti-symmetrizing, this is the Turaev cobracket.



**Example 4** [Ma]. With  $\gamma \in \bar{\pi}$  and  $\lambda_0(\gamma)$  its ascending outer double and  $\lambda_1(\gamma)$  its ascending inner double we get  $\eta_4: \bar{\pi} \rightarrow \bar{\pi} \otimes \bar{\pi}$ . After some massaging, it too becomes the Turaev cobracket.



The rest is essentially **Exercises**: 1. Lemma 1? 2.  $\mathcal{A}$ ? 3. Fact 2? 4.  $\mathcal{A}^1$ ? Especially,  $\mathcal{A}^1(\bigcirc) \cong |A|$ ! 5. Explain why Kontsevich likes our  $\lambda$ 's. 6. Figure out  $\eta_i^q, i = 1, \dots, 4$ .

**Kontsevich in a Pole Dance Studio.** (w/o poles? See [Ko, BN])

$$Z = \left( \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2\pi i)^m} \sum_{\substack{I_1 < \dots < I_m \\ P = \{(z_i, z'_i)\}}} (-1)^{\#P_1} D_P \bigwedge_{i=1}^m \frac{dz_i - dz'_i}{z_i - z'_i} \right) \in \mathcal{A}$$

graded by the number of chords  
filtered by the number of ss chords

**Comments on the Kontsevich Integral.**

1. In the tangle case, the endpoints are fixed at top and bottom.
2. The  $(\dots)^\sim$  means “a correction is needed near the caps and the cups” (for the framed version, see [LM2, Da]).
3. There are never  $pp$  chords, and no  $4T_{pps}$  and  $4T_{ppp}$  relations.
4.  $Z$  is an “expansion”.
5.  $Z$  respects the  $ss$  filtration and so descends to  $Z^{/s}$ :  $\mathcal{K}^{/s} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}^{/s}$ .

**Comments on  $\mathcal{A}$ .** In  $\mathcal{A}^{/1}$  legs on poles commute, so  $\mathcal{A}^{/1}(\bigcirc) = |A|!$

In  $\mathcal{A}_H^{/2}$  we have:

**Example 1<sup>a</sup>.**  $\eta_1^a(|xyxy|, |xyx|) =$

**Example 3<sup>a</sup>.** Ignoring complications,  $\eta_3^a(xxyxyx) =$

**Proof of Lemma 1.** We partially prove Theorem 2 instead:  
**Theorem 2.**  $gr^\bullet \mathcal{K}_H \cong \mathbb{F}[[\hbar]] \otimes (\mathcal{K}^{/1})_0$ .  
**Proof mod  $\hbar^2$ .** The map  $\leftarrow$  is obvious. To go  $\rightarrow$ , map  $\mathcal{K}_H \rightarrow \mathbb{F}[[\hbar]] \otimes \mathcal{K}^{/1}$  using  $\nearrow \mapsto \nearrow + \frac{\hbar}{2} \zeta$  and  $\searrow \mapsto \searrow - \frac{\hbar}{2} \zeta$  and apply the functor  $gr^\bullet$ .

**Unignoring the Complications.** We need  $\lambda_0$  and  $\lambda_1$  such that:

1.  $\lambda_1(\gamma)$  is obtained from  $\lambda_0(\gamma)$  by flipping all self-intersections from ascending to descending.
2. Up to conjugation,  $\lambda_1(\gamma)$  is obtained from  $\lambda_0(\gamma)$  by a global flip.
3.  $Z(\lambda_i(\gamma))$  is computable from  $W(\gamma)$  and  $Z^{/1}(\lambda_i(\gamma)) = W(\gamma)$ .

1. Is there more than Examples 1–4? **Homework**
2. Derive the bialgebra axioms from this perspective.
3. What more do we get if we don't mod out by HOMFLY-PT?
4. What more do we get if we allow more than one strand-strand interaction?
5. In this language, recover Kashiwara-Vergne [AKKN1, AKKN2].
6. How is all this related to w-knots?
7. Do the same with associators. Use that to derive formulas for solutions of Kashiwara-Vergne.
8. What's the relationship with the Habiro-Massuyeau invariants of links in handlebodies [HM] (different filtration!).
9. Pole dance on other surfaces!
10. Explore the action of the mapping class group.

**Acknowledgement.** This work was partially supported by NSERC grant RGPIN-2018-04350 and by the Chu Family Foundation (NYC). I also wish to thank A. Alekseev, F. Naef, and M. Ren for listening to an earlier version and catching some bugs, and Dhanya S. for the dance studio photos. And of course, **thanks for listening!**

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# Kashaev's Signature Conjecture

CMS Winter 2021 Meeting, December 4, 2021

Dror Bar-Natan with Sina Abbasi

These slides and all the code within are available at <http://drorbn.net/cms21>.

(I'll post the video there too)

**Agenda.** Show and tell with signatures.

**Abstract.** I will display side by side two nearly identical computer programs whose inputs are knots and whose outputs seem to always be the same. I'll then admit, very reluctantly, that I don't know how to prove that these outputs are always the same. One program I wrote mostly in Bedlewo, Poland, in the summer of 2003 and as of recently I understand why it computes the Levine-Tristram signature of a knot. The other is based on the 2018 preprint *On Symmetric Matrices Associated with Oriented Link Diagrams* by Rinat Kashaev (arXiv:1801.04632), where he conjectures that a certain simple algorithm also computes that same signature.

If you can, please turn your video on! (And mic, whenever needed).

```

Bed[K_., ω_] :=
Module[{t, r, KingsByArmpits, bends, faces, p, A, is},
  t = 1 - ω; r = 1 + t;
  KingsByArmpits =
  List @@ PD[K] /. x : X[{i_., j_., h_., l_}] =>
  If[PositiveQ[x], X[-i, j, h, -l], X[-j, h, l, -i]];
  bends = Times @@ KingsByArmpits /.
  _[X][c_., d_., e_., f_] => Pa_ -> Pa_ -> Pc_ -> Pd_ -> c;
  faces = bends /. {D_{x_., y_., z_., t_} => D_{y_., z_., t_}};
  A = Table[0, Length@faces, Length@faces];
  Do[is = Position[faces, #][[1, 1]] & /@ List @@ x;
  A[is, is] += If[Head[x] === X,

$$\begin{pmatrix} r & -t & t & t \\ -t & 0 & t & 0 \\ 2t & t & -t & -t \\ t & 0 & -t & 0 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} r & -t & -2t & t \\ -t & 0 & t & 0 \\ -2t & t & t & -t \\ t & 0 & -t & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$
,
  {x, KingsByArmpits}];
  MatrixSignature[A];

```

```

Kas[K_., ω_] :=
Module[{u, v, KingsByArmpits, bends, faces, p, A, is},
  u = Re[ω]; v = Re[-ω];
  KingsByArmpits =
  List @@ PD[K] /. x : X[{i_., j_., h_., l_}] =>
  If[PositiveQ[x], X[-i, j, h, -l], X[-j, h, l, -i]];
  bends = Times @@ KingsByArmpits /.
  _[X][c_., d_., e_., f_] => Pa_ -> Pa_ -> Pc_ -> Pd_ -> c;
  faces = bends /. {D_{x_., y_., z_., t_} => D_{y_., z_., t_}};
  A = Table[0, Length@faces, Length@faces];
  Do[is = Position[faces, #][[1, 1]] & /@ List @@ x;
  A[is, is] += If[Head[x] === X,

$$\begin{pmatrix} v & u & u & u \\ u & u & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & u & v & u \\ u & 1 & u & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} v & u & u & u \\ u & u & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & u & v & u \\ u & 1 & u & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$
,
  {x, KingsByArmpits}];
  (MatrixSignature[A] - Writhe[K]) / 2;

```

### Why am I showing you code?

- ▶ I love code — it's fun!
- ▶ Believe it or not, it is more expressive than math-talk (though I'll do the math-talk as well, to confirm with prevailing norms).
- ▶ It is directly verifiable. Once it is up and running, you'll never ask yourself "did he misplace a sign somewhere"?

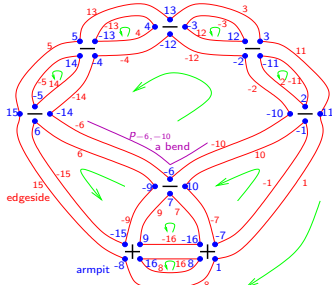
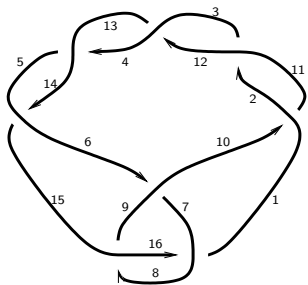
### Verification.

```

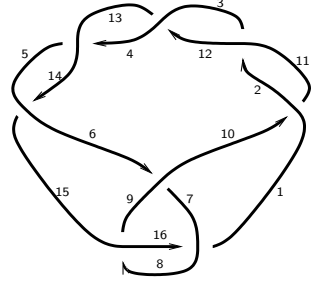
Once[<< KnotTheory`
Loading KnotTheory` version of February 2, 2020, 10:53:45.2097.
Read more at http://katlas.org/wiki/KnotTheory.
MatrixSignature[A_] :=
  Total[Sign[Select[Eigenvalues[A], Abs[#] > 10^-12 &]]];
Writhe[K_] := Sum[If[PositiveQ[x], 1, -1], {x, List @@ PD@K}];
Sum[ω = e^{i RandomReal[{0, 2 π]}; Bed[K, ω] == Kas[K, ω], {10},
  {K, AllKnots[{3, 10}]}]
KnotTheory: Loading precomputed data in PD4Knots.
2490 True

```

### Label everything!



PD[X[10, 1, 11, 2], X[2, 11, 3, 12], ...] {X[-1, 11, 2, -10], X[-11, 3, 12, -2], ...}



```

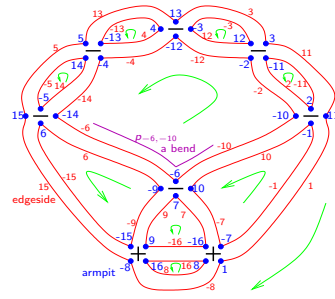
Lets run our code line by line...
PD[82] = PD[X[10, 1, 11, 2],
  X[2, 11, 3, 12], X[12, 3, 13, 4],
  X[4, 13, 5, 14], X[14, 5, 15, 6],
  X[8, 16, 9, 15], X[16, 8, 1, 7],
  X[6, 9, 7, 10]];
K = 82;

```

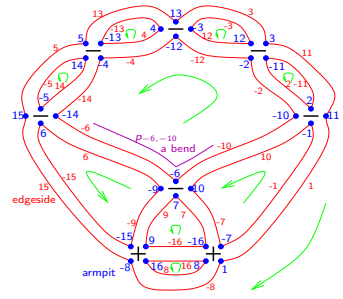
Video and more at <http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Talks/CMS-2112/>



```
XingsByArmpits =
List@@PD[K] /.
x : X[i_, j_, k_, l_] =>
If[PositiveQ[x], X, [-i, j, k, -l],
X, [-j, k, l, -i]]
{X.[-1, 11, 2, -10], X.[-11, 3, 12, -2],
X.[-3, 13, 4, -12], X.[-13, 5, 14, -4],
X.[-5, 15, 6, -14], X.[-8, 16, 9, -15],
X.[-16, 8, 1, -7], X.[-9, 7, 10, -6]}
```



```
bends = Times @@ XingsByArmpits /.
_ [X] [a_, b_, c_, d_] =>
P[a,-d] P[b,-a] P[c,-b] P[d,-c]
P-16,7 P-15,-9 P-14,-6 P-13,4 P-12,-4 P-11,2
P-10,-2 P-9,6 P-8,15 P-7,-1 P-6,-10 P-5,14
P-4,-14 P-3,12 P-2,-12 P-1,10 P1,-8 P2,-11
P3,11 P4,-13 P5,13 P6,-15 P7,9 P8,16 P9,-16
P10,-7 P11,1 P12,-3 P13,3 P14,-5 P15,5 P16,8
faces = bends /. P[x_,y_,z_] => P[x,y,z]
P-13,4,-13 P-11,2,-11 P-5,14,-5 P-3,12,-3
P8,16,8 P6,-15,-9,6 P9,-16,7,9 P10,-7,-1,10
P-10,-2,-12,-4,-14,-6,-10 P1,-8,15,5,13,3,11,1
```



```
A = Table[0, Length@faces, Length@faces];
A // MatrixForm
```

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

```
Do[is = Position[faces, #][[1, 1]] & /@ List@@x;
A[[is, is]] += If[Head[x] === X,

$$\begin{pmatrix} v & u & 1 & u \\ u & 1 & u & 1 \\ 1 & u & v & u \\ u & 1 & u & 1 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} v & u & 1 & u \\ u & 1 & u & 1 \\ 1 & u & v & u \\ u & 1 & u & 1 \end{pmatrix}],
{x, XingsByArmpits}];$$

```

```
x = XingsByArmpits[[1]]
X.[-1, 11, 2, -10]
faces
```

```
P-13,4,-13 P-11,2,-11 P-5,14,-5 P-3,12,-3 P8,16,8 P6,-15,-9,6
P9,-16,7,9 P10,-7,-1,10 P-10,-2,-12,-4,-14,-6,-10 P1,-8,15,5,13,3,11,1
is = Position[faces, #][[1, 1]] & /@ List@@x
{8, 10, 2, 9}
```

```
A[[is, is]] += If[Head[x] === X,

$$\begin{pmatrix} v & u & 1 & u \\ u & 1 & u & 1 \\ 1 & u & v & u \\ u & 1 & u & 1 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} v & u & 1 & u \\ u & 1 & u & 1 \\ 1 & u & v & u \\ u & 1 & u & 1 \end{pmatrix}],$$

```

```
A // MatrixForm

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -v & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & -u & -u & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -v & -u & -u \\ 0 & -u & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -u & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & -u & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -u & -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

```

Recall, is = {8, 10, 2, 9}

```
Do[is = Position[faces, #][[1, 1]] & /@ List@@x;
A[[is, is]] += If[Head[x] === X,

$$\begin{pmatrix} v & u & 1 & u \\ u & 1 & u & 1 \\ 1 & u & v & u \\ u & 1 & u & 1 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} v & u & 1 & u \\ u & 1 & u & 1 \\ 1 & u & v & u \\ u & 1 & u & 1 \end{pmatrix}],
{x, Rest@XingsByArmpits}]$$

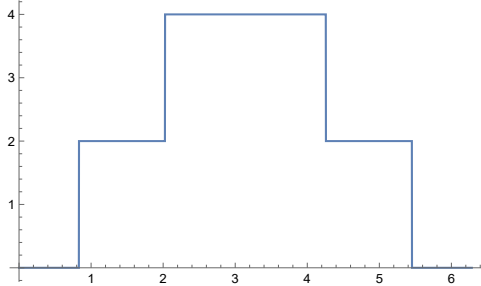
```

```
A // MatrixForm

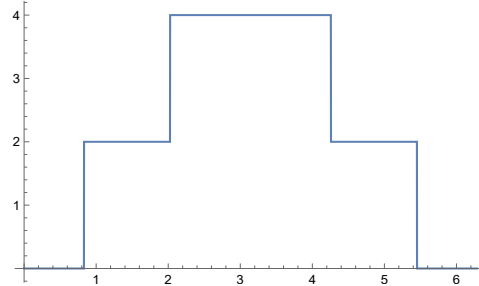
$$\begin{pmatrix} -2v & 0 & -1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -2u & -2u \\ 0 & -2v & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & -2u & -2u \\ -1 & 0 & -2v & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & -2u & -2u \\ -1 & -1 & 0 & -2v & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -2u & -2u \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 1 & 2u & 1 & 0 & 2u \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 1 & 1-2v & 0 & -1 & -2u & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2u & 0 & -1+2v & 0 & -1 & 2 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 & 1-2v & -2u & 0 \\ -2u & -2u & -2u & -2u & 0 & -2u & -1 & -2u & -6 & -5 \\ -2u & -2u & -2u & -2u & 2u & 0 & 2 & 0 & -5 & -5+2v \end{pmatrix}$$

```

```
Plot[ $\omega = e^{it}$ ;  $u = \text{Re}[\omega^{1/2}]$ ;  $v = \text{Re}[\omega]$ ; -
(MatrixSignature[A] - Writhe[K]) / 2,
{t, 0, 2  $\pi$ }]
```

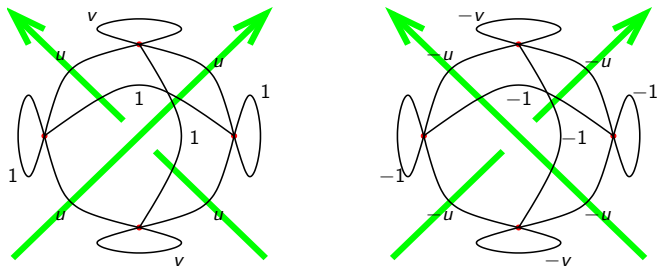


```
Plot[Bed[Knot[8, 2],  $e^{it}$ ], {t, 0, 2  $\pi$ }]
```



### Kashaev for Mathematicians.

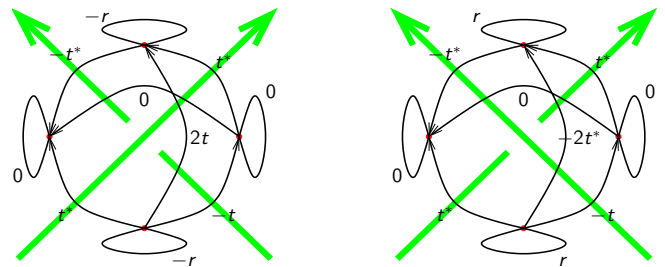
For a knot  $K$  and a complex unit  $\omega$  set  $u = \Re(\omega^{1/2})$ ,  $v = \Re(\omega)$ , make an  $F \times F$  matrix  $A$  with contributions



and output  $\frac{1}{2}(\sigma(A) - w(K))$ .

### Bedlewo for Mathematicians.

For a knot  $K$  and a complex unit  $\omega$  set  $t = 1 - \omega$ ,  $r = 2\Re(t)$ , make an  $F \times F$  matrix  $A$  with contributions



(conjugate if going against the flow) and output  $\sigma(A)$ .

### Why are they equal?

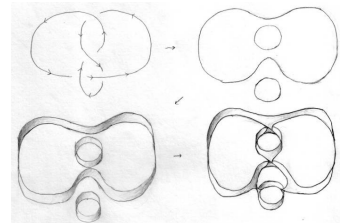
I dunno, yet note that

- ▶ Kashaev is over the  $\mathbb{R}$ eals, Bedlewo is over the  $\mathbb{C}$ omplex numbers.
- ▶ There's a factor of 2 between them, and a shift.

... so it's not merely a matrix manipulation.

**Theorem.** The Bedlewo program computes the Levine-Tristram signature of  $K$  at  $\omega$ .

(Easy) **Proof.** Levine and Tristram tell us to look at  $\sigma((1 - \omega)L + (1 - \omega^*)L^T)$ , where  $L$  is the linking matrix for a Seifert surface  $S$  for  $K$ :  $L_{ij} = \text{lk}(\gamma_i, \gamma_j^+)$  where  $\gamma_i$  run over a basis of  $H_1(S)$  and  $\gamma_i^+$  is the pushout of  $\gamma_i$ . But signatures don't change if you run over an over-determined basis, and the faces make such an over-determined basis whose linking numbers are controlled by the crossings. The rest is details.



Art by Emily Redelmeier

Thank You!

**Warning.** The second formula on page (-2) “**Conclusion**” is silly-wrong. A fix will be posted here soon: some of the numbers written in this handout are a bit off, yet the qualitative results remain exactly the same (namely, for finite type, 3D seems to beat 2D, with the same algorithms).

## Yarn-Ball Knots

[K-OS] on October 21, 2021

Dror Bar-Natan with Itai Bar-Natan, Iva Halacheva, and Nancy Scherich

**Agenda.** A modest light conversation on how knots should be measured.

**Abstract.** Let there be scones! Our view of knot theory is biased in favour of pancakes.

Technically, if  $K$  is a 3D knot that fits in volume  $V$  (assuming fixed-width yarn), then its projection to 2D will have about  $V^{4/3}$  crossings. You'd expect genuinely 3D quantities associated with  $K$  to be computable straight from a 3D presentation of  $K$ . Yet we can hardly ever circumvent this  $V^{4/3} \gg V$  “projection fee”. Exceptions include linking numbers (as we shall prove), the hyperbolic volume, and likely finite type invariants (as we shall discuss in detail). But knot polynomials and knot homologies seem to always pay the fee. Can we exempt them?

More at <http://drorbn.net/kos21>

Thanks for inviting me to speak at [K-OS]!

Most important: <http://drorbn.net/kos21>

See also [arXiv:2108.10923](https://arxiv.org/abs/2108.10923).

If you can, please turn your video on! (And mic, whenever needed).

A recurring question in knot theory is “do we have a 3D understanding of our invariant?”

- ▶ See Witten and the Jones polynomial.
- ▶ See Khovanov homology.

I'll talk about my perspective on the matter...



Knot by Lisa Piccirillo, pancake by DBN

We often think of knots as planar diagrams. 3-dimensionally, they are embedded in “pancakes”.



A Yarn Ball

But real life knots are 3D!



‘Connector’ by Alexandra Griess and Jorel Heid (Hamburg, Germany). Image from [www.waterfrontbia.com/ice-breakers-2019-presented-by-ports/](http://www.waterfrontbia.com/ice-breakers-2019-presented-by-ports/).

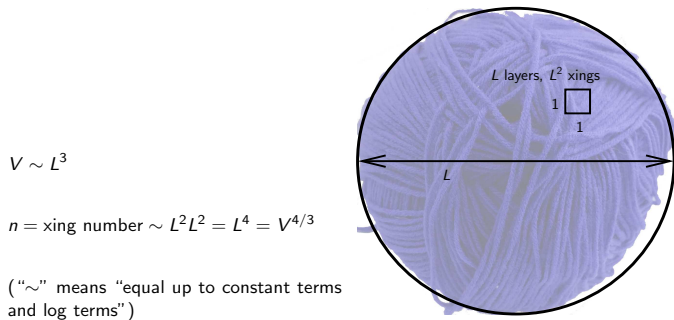


The difference matters when

- ▶ We make statements about “random knots”.
- ▶ We figure out computational complexity.

Let's try to make it quantitative...

Video and more at <http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Talks/KOS-211021/>



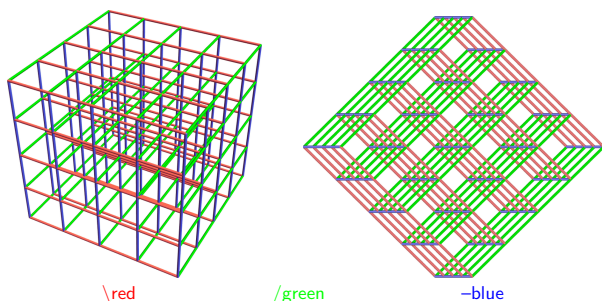
**Conversation Starter 1.** A knot invariant  $\zeta$  is said to be Computationally 3D, or C3D, if

$$C_\zeta(3D, V) \ll C_\zeta(2D, V^{4/3}).$$

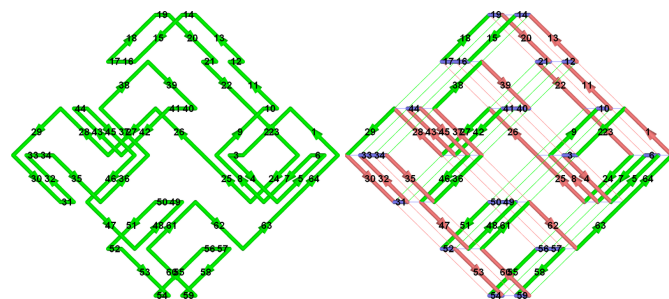
This isn't a rigorous definition! It is time- and naïveté-dependent! But there's room for less-stringent rigour in mathematics, and on a philosophical level, our definition means something.

**Theorem 1.** Let  $lk$  denote the linking number of a 2-component link. Then  $C_{lk}(2D, n) \sim n$  while  $C_{lk}(3D, V) \sim V$ , so  $lk$  is C3D!

**Proof.** WLOG, we are looking at a link in a grid, which we project as on the right:

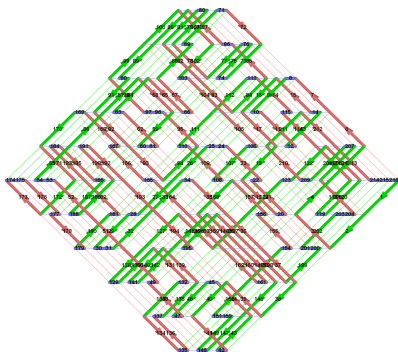


Here's what it look like, in the case of a knot:

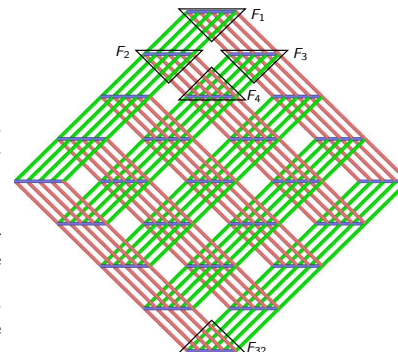


And here's a bigger knot.

This may look like a lot of information, but if  $V$  is big, it's less than the information in a planar diagram, and it is easily computable.



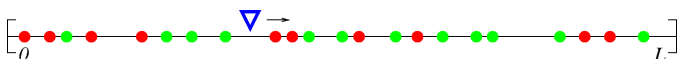
There are  $2L^2$  triangular "crossings fields"  $F_k$  in such a projection.



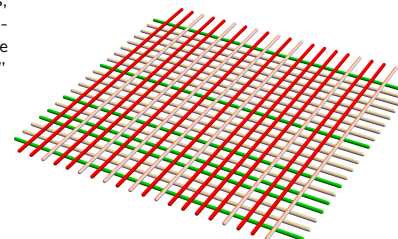
WLOG, in each  $F_k$  all over strands and all under strands are oriented in the same way and all green edges belong to one component and all red edges to the other.

So  $2L^2$  times we have to solve the problem "given two sets  $R$  and  $G$  of integers in  $[0, L]$ , how many pairs  $\{(r, g) \in R \times G : r < g\}$  are there?". This takes time  $\sim L$  (see below), so the overall computation takes time  $\sim L^3$ .

**Below.** Start with  $rb = cf = 0$  ("reds before" and "cases found") and slide  $\nabla$  from left to right, incrementing  $rb$  by one each time you cross a  $\bullet$  and incrementing  $cf$  by  $rb$  each time you cross a  $\circ$ :



In general, with our limited tools, speedup arises because appropriately projected 3D knots have many uniform "red over green" regions:



**Great Embarrassment 1.** I don't know if any of the Alexander, Jones, HOMFLY-PT, and Kauffman polynomials is C3D. I don't know if any Reshetikhin-Turaev invariant is C3D. I don't know if any knot homology is C3D.

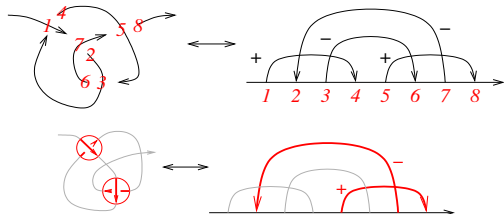
Or maybe it's a cause for optimism — there's still something very basic we don't know about (say) the Jones polynomial. Can we understand it well enough 3-dimensionally to compute it well? If not, why not?

Next we argue that most finite type invariants are probably C3D...

(What a weak statement!)

All pre-categorification knot polynomials are power series whose coefficients are finite type invariants. (This is sometimes helpful for the computation of finite type invariants, but rarely helpful for the computation of knot polynomials).

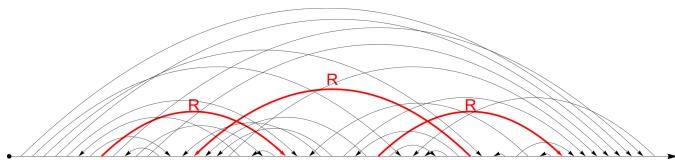
Gauss diagrams and sub-Gauss-diagrams:



Let  $\varphi_d: \{\text{knot diagrams}\} \rightarrow \langle \text{Gauss diagrams} \rangle$  map every knot diagram to the sum of all the sub-diagrams of its Gauss diagram which have at most  $d$  arrows.

**Under-Explained Theorem** (Goussarov-Polyak-Viro). A knot invariant  $\zeta$  is of type  $d$  iff there is a linear functional  $\omega$  on  $\langle \text{Gauss diagrams} \rangle$  such that  $\zeta = \omega \circ \varphi_d$ .

Proof of Theorem FT2D.



We need to count how many times a diagram such as the red appears within a bigger diagram, having  $n$  arrows. Clearly this can be done in time  $\sim n^3$ , and in general, in time  $\sim n^d$ .

**Conversation Starter 2.** Similarly, if  $\eta$  is a stingy quantity (a quantity we expect to be small for small knots), we will say that  $\eta$  has Savings in 3D, or "has S3D" if  $M_\eta(3D, V) \ll M_\eta(2D, V^{4/3})$ .

**Example** (R. van der Veen, D. Thurston, private communications). The hyperbolic volume has S3D.

**Great Embarrassment 2.** I don't know if the genus of a knot has S3D! In other words, even if a knot is given in a 3-dimensional, the best way I know to find a Seifert surface for it is to first project it to 2D, at a great cost.

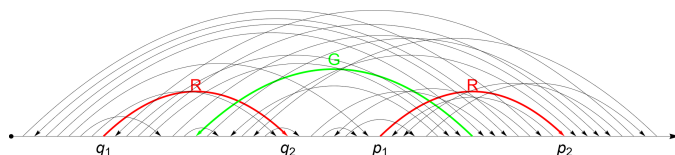
**Theorem FT2D.** If  $\zeta$  is a finite type invariant of type  $d$  then  $C_\zeta(2D, n)$  is at most  $\sim n^{\lfloor 3d/4 \rfloor}$ . With more effort,  $C_\zeta(2D, n) \lesssim n^{(\frac{3}{4}+\epsilon)d}$ .

Note that there are some exceptional finite type invariants, e.g. high coefficients of the Alexander polynomial and other poly-time knot polynomials, which can be computed much faster!

**Theorem FT3D.** If  $\zeta$  is a finite type invariant of type  $d$  then  $C_\zeta(3D, V)$  is at most  $\sim V^{6d/7+1/7}$ . With more effort,  $C_\zeta(3D, V) \lesssim V^{(\frac{6}{7}+\epsilon)d}$ .

**Tentative Conclusion.** As  $n^{3d/4} \sim (V^{4/3})^{3d/4} = V \gg V^{6d/7+1/7}$  and  $n^{2d/3} \sim (V^{4/3})^{2d/3} = V^{8d/9} \gg V^{Ad/5}$  these theorems say "most finite type invariants are probably C3D; the ones in greater doubt are the lucky few that can be computed unusually quickly".

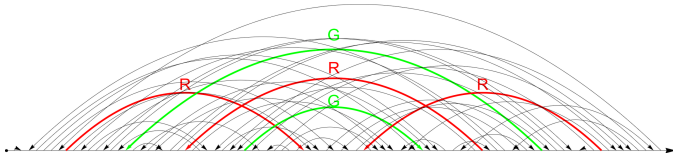
**Theorem FT2D.** If  $\zeta$  is a finite type invariant of type  $d$  then  $C_\zeta(2D, n)$  is at most  $\sim n^{\lfloor 3d/4 \rfloor}$ . With more effort,  $C_\zeta(2D, n) \lesssim n^{(\frac{3}{4}+\epsilon)d}$ .



With an appropriate look-up table, it can also be done in time  $\sim n^2$  (in general,  $\sim n^{d-1}$ ). That look-up table  $(T_{q_1, q_2}^{p_1, p_2})$  is of size (and production cost)  $\sim n^4$  if you are naive, and  $\sim n^2$  if you are just a bit smarter. Indeed

$$T_{q_1, q_2}^{p_1, p_2} = T_{0, q_2}^{0, p_2} - T_{0, q_2}^{0, p_1} - T_{0, q_1}^{0, p_2} + T_{0, q_1}^{0, p_1},$$

and  $(T_{0, q}^{0, p})$  is easy to compute.



With multiple uses of the same lookup table, what naively takes  $\sim n^5$  can be reduced to  $\sim n^3$ .

In general within a big  $d$ -arrow diagram we need to find an as-large-as possible collection of arrows to delay. These must be non-adjacent to each other. As the adjacency graph for the arrows is at worst quadrivalent, we can always find  $\lceil \frac{d}{4} \rceil$  non-adjacent arrows, and hence solve the counting problem in time  $\sim n^{d - \lceil \frac{d}{4} \rceil} = n^{\lfloor 3d/4 \rfloor}$ .

Note that this counting argument works equally well if each of the  $d$  arrows is pulled from a different set!

It follows that we can compute  $\varphi_d$  in time  $\sim n^{\lfloor 3d/4 \rfloor}$ . □

With bigger look-up tables that allow looking up "clusters" of  $G$  arrows, we can reduce this to  $\sim n^{\lfloor \frac{3}{3+\epsilon} d \rfloor}$ . □

On to

**Theorem FT3D.** If  $\zeta$  is a finite type invariant of type  $d$  then  $C_\zeta(3D, V)$  is at most  $\sim V^{6d/7+1/7}$ .

With more effort,  $C_\zeta(2D, V) \lesssim V^{\lfloor \frac{2}{3} + \epsilon \rfloor d}$ .

An image editing problem:



(Yarn ball and background courtesy of Heather Young)

The line/feather method:



Accurate but takes forever.

The rectangle/shark method:



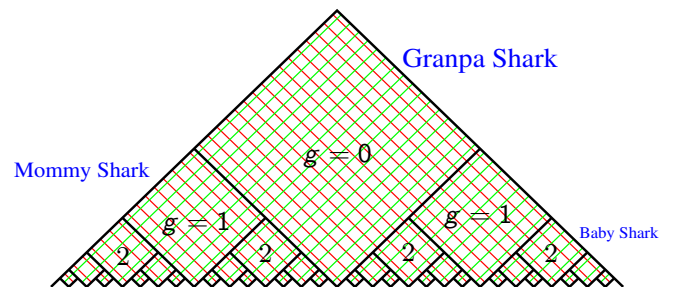
Coarse but fast.

In reality, you take a few shark bites and feather the rest ...



... and then there's an optimization problem to solve: when to stop biting and start feathering.

The structure of a crossing field.



There are about  $\log_2 L$  "generations". There are  $2^g$  bites in generation  $g$ , and the total number of crossings in them is  $\sim L^2/2^g$ . Let's go hunt!

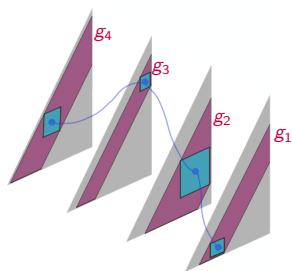
Video and more at <http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Talks/KOS-211021/>

**Multi-feathers and multi-sharks.**

For a type  $d$  invariant we need to count  $d$ -tuples of crossings, and each has its own "generation"  $g_i$ . So we have the "multi-generation"

$$\vec{g} = (g_1, \dots, g_d).$$

Let  $G := \sum g_i$  be the "overall generation". We will choose between a "multi-feather" method and a "multi-shark" method based on the size of  $G$ .



**Conclusion.** We wish to compute the contribution to  $\varphi_d$  coming from  $d$ -tuples of crossings of multi-generation  $\vec{g}$ .

- ▶ The multi-shark method does it in time

$$\sim (\text{no. of bites}) \cdot (\text{time per bite}) = L^{2d} 2^G \cdot \frac{L}{2^{\min \vec{g}}} < L^{2d+1} 2^G$$

(increases with  $G$ ).

- ▶ The multi-feather method (project and use the 2D algorithm) does it in time

$$\sim (\text{no. of crossings})^{1/2^d} = \left( \prod_{i=1}^d L^2 \frac{L^2}{2^{g_i}} \right)^{1/2^d} < \frac{L^{3d}}{(2^G)^{3/4}}$$

(decreases with  $G$ ).

Of course, for any specific  $G$  we are free to choose whichever is better, shark or feather.

If time — a word about braids.

Thank You!

The effort to take a single multi-bite is tiny. Indeed,

**Lemma** Given  $2d$  finite sets  $B_i = \{t_{i1}, t_{i2}, \dots\} \subset [1..L^3]$  and a permutation  $\pi \in S_{2n}$  the quantity

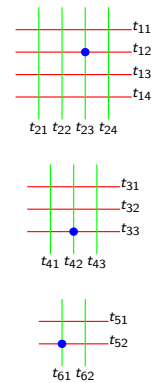
$$N = \left| \left\{ (b_i) \in \prod_{i=1}^{2d} B_i; \text{ the } b_i\text{'s are ordered as } \pi \right\} \right|$$

can be computed in time  $\sim \sum |B_i| \sim \max |B_i|$ .

*Proof.* WLOG  $\pi = Id$ . For  $\iota \in [1..2d]$  and  $\beta \in B := \cup B_i$  let

$$N_{\iota, \beta} = \left| \left\{ (b_i) \in \prod_{i=1}^{\iota} B_i; b_1 < b_2 < \dots < b_{\iota} \leq \beta \right\} \right|.$$

We need to know  $N_{2d, \max B}$ ; compute it inductively using  $N_{\iota, \beta} = N_{\iota, \beta'} + N_{\iota-1, \beta'}$ , where  $\beta'$  is the predecessor of  $\beta$  in  $B$ .  $\square$



The two methods agree (and therefore are at their worst) if  $2^G = L^{\frac{1}{2}(d-1)}$ , and in that case, they both take time  $\sim L^{\frac{3}{2}d + \frac{3}{2}} = V^{\frac{5}{2}d + \frac{1}{2}}$ .

The same reasoning, with the  $n^{\frac{2}{3}+e}d$  feather, gives  $V^{\frac{2}{3}+e}d$ .  $\square$

# I Still Don't Understand the Alexander Polynomial

Dror Bar-Natan, <http://drorbn.net/mo21>


Moscow by Web, April 2021

**Abstract.** As an algebraic knot theorist, I still don't understand the Alexander polynomial. There are two conventions as for how to present tangle theory in algebra: one may name the strands of a tangle, or one may name their ends. The distinction might seem too minor to matter, yet it leads to a completely different view of the set of tangles as an algebraic structure. There are lovely formulas for the Alexander polynomial as viewed from either perspective, and they even agree where they meet. But the "strands" formulas know about strand doubling while the "ends" ones don't, and the "ends" formulas know about skein relations while the "strands" ones don't. There ought to be a common generalization, but I don't know what it is.

I use talks to self-motivate; so often I choose a topic and write an abstract when I know I can do it, yet when I haven't done it yet. This time it turns out my abstract was wrong — I'm still uncomfortable with the Alexander polynomial, but in slightly different ways than advertised two slides before.

**My discomfort.**

- ▶ I can compute the multivariable Alexander polynomial real fast:



$$\rightarrow (uvw)^{-1/2}(u-1)(v-1)(w-1).$$

- ▶ But I can only prove "skein relations" real slow:



## 1. Virtual Skein Theory Heaven

**Definition.** A "Contraction Algebra" assigns a set  $\mathcal{T}(\mathcal{X}, X)$  to any pair of finite sets  $\mathcal{X} = \{\xi \dots\}$  and  $X = \{x, \dots\}$  provided  $|\mathcal{X}| = |X|$ , and has operations

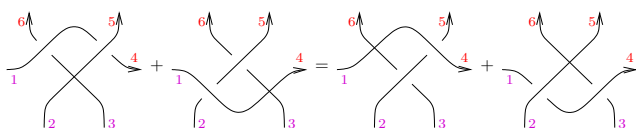
- ▶ "Disjoint union"  $\sqcup: \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{X}, X) \times \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{Y}, Y) \rightarrow \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{X} \sqcup \mathcal{Y}, X \sqcup Y)$ , provided  $\mathcal{X} \cap \mathcal{Y} = X \cap Y = \emptyset$ .
- ▶ "Contractions"  $c_{x,\xi}: \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{X}, X) \rightarrow \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{X} \setminus \xi, X \setminus x)$ , provided  $x \in X$  and  $\xi \in \mathcal{X}$ .
- ▶ Renaming operations  $\sigma_\eta^\xi: \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{X} \sqcup \{\xi\}, X) \rightarrow \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{X} \sqcup \{\eta\}, X)$  and  $\sigma_y^x: \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{X}, X \sqcup \{x\}) \rightarrow \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{X}, X \sqcup \{y\})$ .

Subject to axioms that will be specified right after the two examples in the next three slides.

If  $R$  is a ring, a contraction algebra is said to be " $R$ -linear" if all the  $\mathcal{T}(\mathcal{X}, X)$ 's are  $R$ -modules, if the disjoint union operations are  $R$ -bilinear, and if the contractions  $c_{x,\xi}$  and the renamings  $\sigma$  are  $R$ -linear.

(Contraction algebras with some further "unit" properties are called "wheeled props" in [MMS, DHR])

**Note 3.** A contraction algebra morphism out of  $\mathcal{T}$  is an invariant of virtual tangles (and hence of virtual knots and links) and would be an ideal tool to prove Skein Relations:

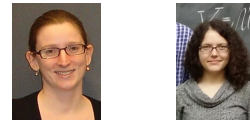


Thanks for inviting me to Moscow! As most of you have never seen it, here's a picture of the lecture room:



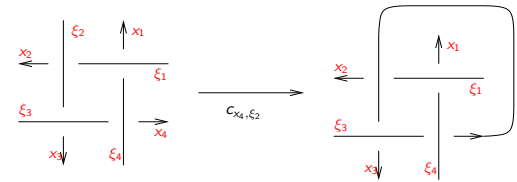
If you can, please turn your video on! (And mic, whenever needed).

This talk is to a large extent an elucidation of the Ph.D. theses of my former students Jana Archibald and Iva Halacheva. See [Ar, Ha1, Ha2].



Also thanks to Roland van der Veen for comments.

**A technicality.** There's supposed to be fire alarm testing in my building today. Don't panic!



**Example 1.** Let  $\mathcal{T}(\mathcal{X}, X)$  be the set of virtual tangles with incoming ends ("tails") labeled by  $\mathcal{X}$  and outgoing ends ("heads") labeled by  $X$ , with  $\sqcup$  and  $\sigma$ : the obvious disjoint union and end-renaming operations, and with  $c_{x,\xi}$  the operation of attaching a head  $x$  to a tail  $\xi$  while introducing no new crossings.

**Note 1.**  $\mathcal{T}$  can be made linear by allowing formal linear combinations.

**Note 2.**  $\mathcal{T}$  is finitely presented, with generators the positive and negative crossings, and with relations the Reidemeister moves! (If you want, you can take this to be the definition of "virtual tangles").

**Example 2.** Let  $V$  be a finite dimensional vector space and set  $\mathcal{V}(\mathcal{X}, X) := (V^*)^{\otimes \mathcal{X}} \otimes V^{\otimes X}$ , with  $\sqcup = \otimes$ , with  $\sigma$ : the operation of renaming a factor, and with  $c_{x,\xi}$  the operation of contraction: the evaluation of tensor factor  $\xi$  (which is a  $V^*$ ) on tensor factor  $x$  (which is a  $V$ ).



**Axioms.** One axiom is primary and interesting,

- ▶ Contractions commute! Namely,  $c_{x,\xi} \parallel c_{y,\eta} = c_{y,\eta} \parallel c_{x,\xi}$  (or in old-speak,  $c_{y,\eta} \circ c_{x,\xi} = c_{x,\xi} \circ c_{y,\eta}$ ).

And the rest are just what you'd expect:

- ▶  $\sqcup$  is commutative and associative, and it commutes with  $c_{\cdot,\cdot}$  and with  $\sigma_{\cdot,\cdot}$  whenever that makes sense.
- ▶  $c_{\cdot,\cdot}$  is "natural" relative to renaming:  $c_{x,\xi} = \sigma_y^x \parallel \sigma_{\eta}^{\xi} \parallel c_{y,\eta}$ .
- ▶  $\sigma_{\xi}^{\xi} = \sigma_x^x = Id$ ,  $\sigma_{\eta}^{\xi} \parallel \sigma_{\zeta}^{\eta} = \sigma_{\zeta}^{\xi}$ ,  $\sigma_y^x \parallel \sigma_z^y = \sigma_z^x$ , and renaming operations commute where it makes sense.

## 2. Heaven is a Place on Earth

(A version of the main results of Archibald's thesis, [Ar]).

Let us work over the base ring  $\mathcal{R} = \mathbb{Q}[\{T^{\pm 1/2} : T \in C\}]$ . Set

$$\mathcal{A}(\mathcal{X}, X) := \{w \in \Lambda(\mathcal{X} \sqcup X) : \deg_{\mathcal{X}} w = \deg_X w\}$$

(so in particular the elements of  $\mathcal{A}(\mathcal{X}, X)$  are all of even degree). The union operation is the wedge product, the renaming operations are changes of variables, and  $c_{x,\xi}$  is defined as follows. Write  $w \in \mathcal{A}(\mathcal{X}, X)$  as a sum of terms of the form  $uw'$  where  $u \in \Lambda(\xi, x)$  and  $w' \in \mathcal{A}(\mathcal{X} \setminus \xi, X \setminus x)$ , and map  $u$  to 1 if it is 1 or  $x\xi$  and to 0 if it is  $\xi$  or  $x$ :

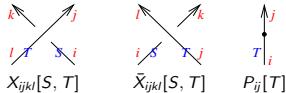
$$1w' \mapsto w', \quad \xi w' \mapsto 0, \quad xw' \mapsto 0, \quad x\xi w' \mapsto w'.$$

**Proposition.**  $\mathcal{A}$  is a contraction algebra.

We construct a morphism of coloured contraction algebras  $\mathcal{A} : \mathcal{T} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  by declaring

$$\begin{aligned} X_{ijkl}[S, T] &\mapsto T^{-1/2} \exp\left(\left(\begin{matrix} \xi_i & \xi_j \\ 0 & 1-T \end{matrix}\right) \begin{pmatrix} x_j \\ x_k \end{pmatrix}\right) \\ \bar{X}_{ijkl}[S, T] &\mapsto T^{1/2} \exp\left(\left(\begin{matrix} \xi_i & \xi_j \\ 1-T^{-1} & 0 \end{matrix}\right) \begin{pmatrix} x_k \\ x_j \end{pmatrix}\right) \\ P_{ij}[T] &\mapsto \exp(\xi_i x_j) \end{aligned}$$

with



(Note that the matrices appearing in these formulas are the Burau matrices).

## 3. An Implementation of $\mathcal{A}$

If I didn't implement I wouldn't believe myself.

Written in Mathematica [Wo], available as the notebook Alpha.nb at <http://drorbn.net/mo21/ap>. Code lines are highlighted in grey, demo lines are plain. We start with an implementation of elements ("Wedge") of exterior algebras, and of the wedge product ("WP"):

```
WP[Wedge[u___], Wedge[v___]] := Signature[{u, v}] * Wedge @@ Sort[{u, v}];
WP[0, _] = WP[_ , 0] = 0;
WP[A_, B_] :=
  Expand[Distribute[A ** B] /.
    (a_. * u_Wedge) ** (b_. * v_Wedge) -> a b WP[u, v]];
WP[Wedge[a_] + Wedge[b] - 2 b ^ a, Wedge[a] - 3 Wedge[b] + 7 c ^ d]
Wedge[] + Wedge[a] - 3 Wedge[b] - a ^ b + 7 c ^ d + 7 a ^ c ^ d + 14 a ^ b ^ c ^ d
```

**Comments.**

- ▶ We can relax  $|\mathcal{X}| = |X|$  at no cost.
- ▶ We can lose the distinction between  $\mathcal{X}$  and  $X$  and get "circuit algebras".
- ▶ There is a "coloured version", where  $\mathcal{T}(\mathcal{X}, X)$  is replaced with  $\mathcal{T}(\mathcal{X}, X, \lambda, l)$  where  $\lambda : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow C$  and  $l : X \rightarrow C$  are "colour functions" into some set  $C$  of "colours", and contractions  $c_{x,\xi}$  are allowed only if  $x$  and  $\xi$  are of the same colour,  $l(x) = \lambda(\xi)$ . In the world of tangles, this is "coloured tangles".

**Alternative Formulations.**

- ▶  $c_{x,\xi} w = \iota_{\xi} \iota_x e^{x\xi} w$ , where  $\iota_{\cdot}$  denotes interior multiplication.
- ▶ Using Fermionic integration,  $c_{x,\xi} w = \int e^{x\xi} w d\xi dx$ .
- ▶  $c_{x,\xi}$  represents composition in exterior algebras! With  $X^* := \{x^* : x \in X\}$ , we have that  $\text{Hom}(\Lambda X, \Lambda Y) \cong \Lambda(X^* \sqcup Y)$  and the following square commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Hom}(\Lambda X, \Lambda Y) \otimes \text{Hom}(\Lambda Y, \Lambda Z) & \xrightarrow{\parallel} & \text{Hom}(\Lambda X, \Lambda Z) \\ \updownarrow & & \updownarrow \\ \Lambda(X^* \sqcup Y \sqcup Y^* \sqcup Z) & \xrightarrow{\prod_{y \in Y} c_{y, y^*}} & \Lambda(X^*, Z) \end{array}$$

- ▶ Similarly,  $\Lambda(\mathcal{X} \sqcup X) \cong (H^*)^{\otimes \mathcal{X}} \otimes H^{\otimes X}$  where  $H$  is a 2-dimensional "state space" and  $H^*$  is its dual. Under this identification,  $c_{x,\xi}$  becomes the contraction of an  $H$  factor with an  $H^*$  factor.

## Theorem.

If  $D$  is a classical link diagram with  $k$  components coloured  $T_1, \dots, T_k$  whose first component is open and the rest are closed, if  $MVA$  is the multivariable Alexander polynomial of the closure of  $D$  (with these colours), and if  $\rho_j$  is the counterclockwise rotation number of the  $j$ th component of  $D$ , then

$$\mathcal{A}(D) = T_1^{-1/2} (T_1 - 1) \left( \prod_j T_j^{\rho_j/2} \right) \cdot MVA \cdot (1 + \xi_{in} \wedge x_{out}).$$

( $\mathcal{A}$  vanishes on closed links).

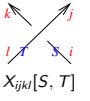
Contractions!

```

c_{x,y}_[w_Wedge] := Module[{i, j},
  {i} = FirstPosition[w, x, {0}]; {j} = FirstPosition[w, y, {0}];
  {
    w (i == 0) & (j == 0)
    (-1)^{i+j+If[i>j,0,1]} Delete[w, {{i}, {j}}] (i > 0) & (j > 0)
  };
c_{x,y}_[e_] := e /. w_Wedge -> c_{x,y}_[w]
WExp[a^b + 2 c^d]
c_{a,c}@WExp[a^b + 2 c^d]
Wedge[] + a^b + 2 c^d + 2 a^b^c^d
-Wedge[] - a^b

```

$\mathcal{A}[is, os, cs, w]$  is also a container for the values of the  $\mathcal{A}$ -invariant of a tangle. In it,  $is$  are the labels of the input strands,  $os$  are the labels of the output strands,  $cs$  is an assignment of colours (namely, variables) to all the ends  $\{\xi_i\}_{i \in is} \sqcup \{\xi_j\}_{j \in os}$ , and  $w$  is the "payload": an element of  $\Lambda(\{\xi_i\}_{i \in is} \sqcup \{\xi_j\}_{j \in os})$ .

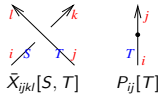


```

A[X_{i,j,k,l}_[S_, T_]] := A[{L, i}, {j, k}, <{\xi_i -> S, \xi_j -> T, \xi_k -> S, \xi_l -> T}>,
  Expand[T^{-1/2} WExp[Expand[{\xi_i, \xi_j} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -T \\ 0 & T \end{pmatrix} \cdot \{X_j, X_k\}] /. \xi_a \cdot X_b -> \xi_a \wedge X_b]]];
A[X_{1,2,3,4}[u, v]]
A[{4, 1}, {2, 3}, <\xi_1 -> u, \xi_2 -> v, \xi_3 -> u, \xi_4 -> v>,
  Wedge[] - \frac{X_2 \wedge \xi_4}{\sqrt{v}} - \sqrt{v} X_3 \wedge \xi_1 - \frac{X_3 \wedge \xi_4}{\sqrt{v}} + \sqrt{v} X_3 \wedge \xi_4 + \sqrt{v} X_2 \wedge X_3 \wedge \xi_1 \wedge \xi_4];
A[X_{i,j,k,l}_[c_i, c_l]] := A[X_{i,j,k,l}_[c_i, c_l]]

```

The negative crossing and the "point":



```

A[X_{i,j,k,l}_[S_, T_]] := A[{i, j}, {k, l}, <{\xi_i -> S, \xi_j -> T, \xi_k -> S, \xi_l -> T}>,
  Expand[T^{1/2} WExp[Expand[{\xi_i, \xi_j} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} T^{-1} & 0 \\ 1 & T^{-1} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \{X_k, X_l\}] /. \xi_a \cdot X_b -> \xi_a \wedge X_b]]];
A[X_{i,j,k,l}_[c_i, c_l]] := A[X_{i,j,k,l}_[c_i, c_l]];
A[P_{i,j}_[T_]] := A[{i}, {j}, <\xi_i -> T, \xi_j -> T>, WExp[\xi_i \wedge X_j]];
A[P_{i,j}_[c_i]] := A[P_{i,j}_[c_i]]

```

The linear structure on  $\mathcal{A}$ 's:

```

A /: \alpha \cdot A[is_, os_, cs_, w_] := A[is, os, cs, Expand[\alpha w]]
A /: A[is1_, os1_, cs1_, w1_] + A[is2_, os2_, cs2_, w2_] /;
  (Sort@is1 == Sort@is2) & (Sort@os1 == Sort@os2) &
  (Sort@Normal@cs1 == Sort@Normal@cs2) := A[is1, os1, cs1, w1 + w2]

```

Deciding if two  $\mathcal{A}$ 's are equal:

```

A /: A[is1_, os1_, _, w1_] == A[is2_, os2_, _, w2_] :=
  TrueQ[(Sort@is1 == Sort@is2) & (Sort@os1 == Sort@os2) &
  PowerExpand[w1 == w2]]

```

The union operation on  $\mathcal{A}$ 's (implemented as "multiplication"):

```

A /: A[is1_, os1_, cs1_, w1_] \times A[is2_, os2_, cs2_, w2_] :=
  A[is1 \cup is2, os1 \cup os2, Join[cs1, cs2], WP[w1, w2]]
Short[A[X_{2,4,3,1}[S, T]] \times A[X_{3,4,6,5}[S, T]]]

```



$A[\{1, 2, 3, 4\}, \{3, 4, 5, 6\}]$

$$\langle \xi_2 \rightarrow S, \xi_4 \rightarrow T, \xi_3 \rightarrow S, \xi_1 \rightarrow T, \xi_3 \rightarrow T_3, \xi_4 \rightarrow T_4, \xi_6 \rightarrow T_3, \xi_5 \rightarrow T_4 \rangle, \frac{\sqrt{\epsilon_4} \text{Wedge}[]}{\sqrt{T}} - \frac{\sqrt{\epsilon_4} X_3 \wedge \xi_1}{\sqrt{T}} + \sqrt{T} \sqrt{\epsilon_4} X_3 \wedge \xi_1 - \sqrt{T} \sqrt{\epsilon_4} X_3 \wedge \xi_2 - \frac{\sqrt{\epsilon_4} X_4 \wedge \xi_1}{\sqrt{T}} - \frac{\sqrt{\epsilon_4} X_5 \wedge \xi_4}{\sqrt{T}} - \frac{X_6 \wedge \xi_3}{\sqrt{T} \sqrt{\epsilon_4}} + \langle\langle 40 \rangle\rangle + \frac{\sqrt{T} X_3 \wedge X_5 \wedge X_6 \wedge \xi_1 \wedge \xi_3 \wedge \xi_4}{\sqrt{\epsilon_4}} - \frac{\sqrt{T} X_3 \wedge X_5 \wedge X_6 \wedge \xi_2 \wedge \xi_3 \wedge \xi_4}{\sqrt{\epsilon_4}} - \frac{X_4 \wedge X_5 \wedge X_6 \wedge \xi_1 \wedge \xi_3 \wedge \xi_4}{\sqrt{T} \sqrt{\epsilon_4}} + \frac{\sqrt{T} X_3 \wedge X_4 \wedge X_5 \wedge X_6 \wedge \xi_1 \wedge \xi_2 \wedge \xi_3 \wedge \xi_4}{\sqrt{\epsilon_4}}$$

Contractions of  $\mathcal{A}$ -objects:

```

c_{h,t}_@A[is_, os_, cs_, w_] := A[
  DeleteCases[is, t], DeleteCases[os, h], KeyDrop[cs, {X_h, \xi_t}], c_{h,\xi_t}[w]
] /. If[MatchQ[cs[\xi_t], c_], cs[\xi_t] -> cs[X_h], cs[X_h] -> cs[\xi_t]];
c_{4,4}[A[X_{2,4,3,1}[S, T]] \times A[X_{3,4,6,5}[S, T]]]
A[\{1, 2, 3\}, \{3, 5, 6\}, <\xi_2 -> S, \xi_3 -> S, \xi_1 -> T, \xi_3 -> T_3, \xi_6 \rightarrow T_3, \xi_5 \rightarrow T\rangle,
  Wedge[] - X_3 \wedge \xi_1 + T X_3 \wedge \xi_1 - T X_3 \wedge \xi_2 - X_5 \wedge \xi_1 - X_6 \wedge \xi_1 + \frac{X_6 \wedge \xi_1}{T} - \frac{X_6 \wedge \xi_3}{T} + \frac{T X_3 \wedge X_5 \wedge \xi_1 \wedge \xi_2 - X_3 \wedge X_6 \wedge \xi_1 \wedge \xi_2 + T X_3 \wedge X_6 \wedge \xi_1 \wedge \xi_2 + X_3 \wedge X_6 \wedge \xi_1 \wedge \xi_3 - X_3 \wedge X_6 \wedge \xi_1 \wedge \xi_3}{T} - X_3 \wedge X_6 \wedge \xi_2 \wedge \xi_3 - \frac{X_5 \wedge X_6 \wedge \xi_1 \wedge \xi_3}{T} - X_3 \wedge X_5 \wedge X_6 \wedge \xi_1 \wedge \xi_2 \wedge \xi_3]

```

#### 4. Skein relations and evaluations for $\mathcal{A}$

Automatic and intelligent multiple contractions:

```

c@A[is_, os_, cs_, w_] := Fold[c_{h,t}_@A[#1] &, A[is, os, cs, w], is \cap os]
A[{A_}] := c[A];
A[{A1_}, A2_] := Module[{A2},
  A2 = First@MaximalBy[{A5}, Length[A1[[1]] \cap #[[2]]] + Length[A1[[2]] \cap #[[1]]] &];
  A[Join[{c[A1 A2]}, DeleteCases[{A5}, A2]]]
]
A[os_List] := A[A/os]

```



$c[A[X_{2,4,3,1}[S, T]] \times A[X_{3,4,6,5}[S, T]]]$

$A[\{1, 2\}, \{5, 6\}, \langle \xi_2 \rightarrow S, \xi_1 \rightarrow T, \xi_6 \rightarrow S, \xi_5 \rightarrow T \rangle,$   
 $\text{Wedge}[] - X_5 \wedge \xi_1 - X_6 \wedge \xi_2 - X_5 \wedge X_6 \wedge \xi_1 \wedge \xi_2]$

$A\{A[X_{2,4,3,1}[S, T]], A[X_{3,4,6,5}[S, T]]\}$

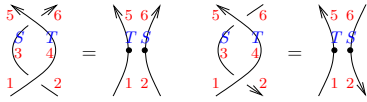
$A[\{1, 2\}, \{5, 6\}, \langle \xi_2 \rightarrow S, \xi_1 \rightarrow T, \xi_6 \rightarrow S, \xi_5 \rightarrow T \rangle,$   
 $\text{Wedge}[] - X_5 \wedge \xi_1 - X_6 \wedge \xi_2 - X_5 \wedge X_6 \wedge \xi_1 \wedge \xi_2]$

$A\{X_{4,1,6,3}[v, u], X_{3,2,5,4}\}$

$A[\{1, 2\}, \{5, 6\}, \langle \xi_2 \rightarrow v, \xi_5 \rightarrow u, \xi_1 \rightarrow u, \xi_6 \rightarrow v \rangle,$

$$\sqrt{u} \sqrt{v} \text{Wedge}[] - \frac{\sqrt{u} X_5 \wedge \xi_1}{\sqrt{v}} + \frac{\sqrt{u} X_5 \wedge \xi_2}{\sqrt{v}} - \sqrt{u} \sqrt{v} X_5 \wedge \xi_2 + \frac{\sqrt{v} X_6 \wedge \xi_1}{\sqrt{u}} - \sqrt{u} \sqrt{v} X_6 \wedge \xi_1 + \frac{\sqrt{v} X_6 \wedge \xi_2}{\sqrt{u}} - \frac{\sqrt{u} X_5 \wedge X_6 \wedge \xi_1 \wedge \xi_2}{\sqrt{v}} - \frac{\sqrt{v} X_5 \wedge X_6 \wedge \xi_1 \wedge \xi_2}{\sqrt{u}} + \sqrt{u} \sqrt{v} X_5 \wedge X_6 \wedge \xi_1 \wedge \xi_2]$$

Reidemeister 2



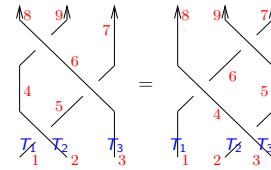
$$\mathcal{A}@\{X_{2,4,3,1}[S, T], \bar{X}_{3,4,6,5}\} \equiv \mathcal{A}@\{P_{1,5}[T], P_{2,6}[S]\}$$

True

$$\mathcal{A}@\{\bar{X}_{3,1,2,4}[S, T], X_{6,5,3,4}\} \equiv \mathcal{A}@\{P_{1,5}[T], P_{6,2}[S]\}$$

True

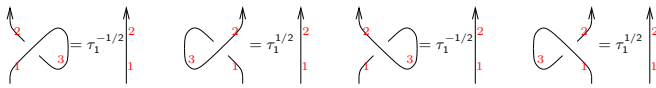
Reidemeister 3



$$\mathcal{A}@\{X_{2,5,4,1}[T_2, T_1], X_{3,7,6,5}[T_3, T_1], X_{6,9,8,4}\} \equiv \mathcal{A}@\{X_{3,5,4,2}[T_3, T_2], X_{4,6,8,1}[T_3, T_1], X_{5,7,9,6}\}$$

True

Reidemeister 1

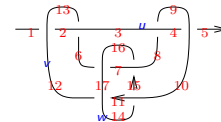


$$\{\mathcal{A}@\{X_{3,3,2,1}\} \equiv \tau_1^{-1/2} \mathcal{A}@\{P_{1,2}\}, \mathcal{A}@\{X_{1,2,3,3}\} \equiv \tau_1^{1/2} \mathcal{A}@\{P_{1,2}\}, \mathcal{A}@\{\bar{X}_{1,3,3,2}\} \equiv \tau_1^{-1/2} \mathcal{A}@\{P_{1,2}\}, \mathcal{A}@\{\bar{X}_{3,1,2,3}\} \equiv \tau_1^{1/2} \mathcal{A}@\{P_{1,2}\}\}$$

{True, True, True, True}

(So we have an invariant, up to rotation numbers).

The Relation with the Multivariable Alexander Polynomial



$$MVA = u^{-1/2} v^{-1/2} w^{-1/2} (u-1)(v-1)(w-1);$$

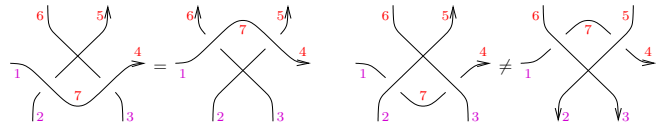
$$A = \{\bar{X}_{1,12,2,13}[u, v], \bar{X}_{13,2,6,3}, X_{8,4,9,3}, X_{4,10,5,9}, X_{6,17,7,16}[v, w], X_{15,8,16,7}, \bar{X}_{14,10,15,11}, \bar{X}_{11,17,12,14}\} // \mathcal{A} // \text{Last} // \text{Factor}$$

$$\frac{(-1+u)^2 (-1+v) (-1+w) (\text{Wedge}[\ ] - x_5 \wedge \xi_1)}{u v}$$

$$A = u^{-1/2} (u-1) u^0 v^{-1/2} w^{1/2} MVA (\text{Wedge}[\ ] - x_5 \wedge \xi_1)$$

True

Overcrossings Commute but Undercrossings don't



$$\mathcal{A}@\{X_{2,7,5,1}, X_{3,4,6,7}\} \equiv \mathcal{A}@\{X_{3,7,6,1}, X_{2,4,5,7}\}$$

True

$$\mathcal{A}@\{\bar{X}_{1,2,7,5}, \bar{X}_{7,3,4,6}\} \equiv \mathcal{A}@\{\bar{X}_{1,3,7,6}, \bar{X}_{7,2,4,5}\}$$

False

The Conway Relation

(see [Co])

$$I \nearrow \nearrow \searrow \searrow = (T^{-1/2} - T^{1/2}) I \nearrow \searrow$$

$$\mathcal{A}@\{X_{2,3,4,1}[T, T]\} - \mathcal{A}@\{\bar{X}_{1,2,3,4}[T, T]\} \equiv (T^{-1/2} - T^{1/2}) \mathcal{A}@\{P_{1,4}[T], P_{2,3}[T]\}$$

True



Conway's Second Set of Identities

(see [Co])

$$\begin{matrix} \nearrow \searrow \\ \searrow \nearrow \end{matrix} + \begin{matrix} \searrow \nearrow \\ \nearrow \searrow \end{matrix} = ((uv)^{1/2} + (uv)^{-1/2}) \begin{matrix} \nearrow \\ \searrow \end{matrix} \quad \begin{matrix} \nearrow \searrow \\ \searrow \nearrow \end{matrix} + \begin{matrix} \searrow \nearrow \\ \nearrow \searrow \end{matrix} = ((u/v)^{1/2} + (u/v)^{-1/2}) \begin{matrix} \nearrow \\ \searrow \end{matrix}$$

$$\mathcal{A}@\{X_{2,4,3,1}[v, u], X_{4,6,5,3}\} + \mathcal{A}@\{\bar{X}_{1,2,4,3}[u, v], \bar{X}_{3,4,6,5}\} \equiv (u^{1/2} v^{1/2} + u^{-1/2} v^{-1/2}) \mathcal{A}@\{P_{1,5}[u], P_{2,6}[v]\}$$

True

$$\mathcal{A}@\{\bar{X}_{4,1,6,3}[v, u], \bar{X}_{3,2,5,4}\} + \mathcal{A}@\{X_{1,6,3,4}[u, v], X_{2,5,4,3}\} \equiv (u^{1/2} v^{-1/2} + u^{-1/2} v^{1/2}) \mathcal{A}@\{P_{1,5}[u], P_{2,6}[v]\}$$

True

Virtual versions (Archibald, [Ar])

$$\begin{matrix} \nearrow \searrow \\ \searrow \nearrow \end{matrix} + \begin{matrix} \searrow \nearrow \\ \nearrow \searrow \end{matrix} = (\tau_1^{1/2} + \tau_1^{-1/2}) \begin{matrix} \nearrow \\ \searrow \end{matrix} \quad \begin{matrix} \nearrow \searrow \\ \searrow \nearrow \end{matrix} + \begin{matrix} \searrow \nearrow \\ \nearrow \searrow \end{matrix} = (\tau_2^{1/2} + \tau_2^{-1/2}) \begin{matrix} \nearrow \\ \searrow \end{matrix}$$

$$\mathcal{A}@\{X_{2,3,4,1}\} + \mathcal{A}@\{\bar{X}_{2,1,4,3}\} \equiv (\tau_1^{1/2} + \tau_1^{-1/2}) \mathcal{A}@\{P_{1,3}, P_{2,4}\}$$

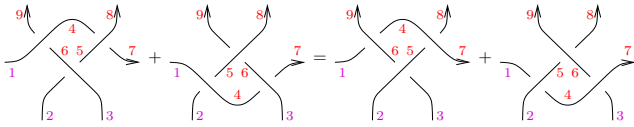
True

$$\mathcal{A}@\{\bar{X}_{1,2,3,4}\} + \mathcal{A}@\{X_{1,4,3,2}\} \equiv (\tau_2^{1/2} + \tau_2^{-1/2}) \mathcal{A}@\{P_{1,3}, P_{2,4}\}$$

True

Conway's Third Identity

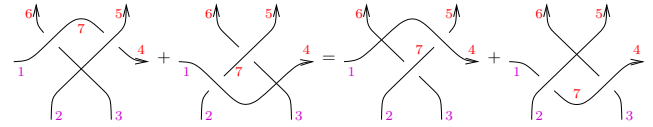
(see [Co])



$$\mathcal{A}@\{X_{6,4,9,1}, \bar{X}_{4,5,7,8}, \bar{X}_{2,3,5,6}\} + \mathcal{A}@\{X_{2,4,5,1}, \bar{X}_{4,3,7,6}, X_{6,8,9,5}\} \equiv \mathcal{A}@\{\bar{X}_{1,6,4,9}, X_{5,7,8,4}, X_{3,5,6,2}\} + \mathcal{A}@\{\bar{X}_{1,2,4,5}, X_{3,7,6,4}, \bar{X}_{5,6,8,9}\}$$

True

Virtual version (Archibald, [Ar])

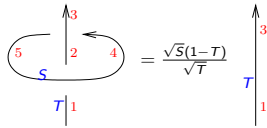


$$\mathcal{A}@\{X_{3,7,6,1}, \bar{X}_{7,2,4,5}\} + \mathcal{A}@\{X_{2,4,7,1}, X_{3,5,6,7}\} \equiv \mathcal{A}@\{X_{3,7,6,2}, X_{7,4,5,1}\} + \mathcal{A}@\{\bar{X}_{1,2,7,5}, X_{3,4,6,7}\}$$

True

Jun Murakami's Fifth Axiom

(see [Mu])

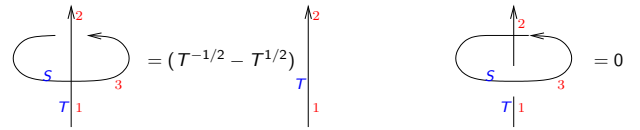


$$\mathcal{A}@\{X_{1,4,2,5}[T, S], X_{4,3,5,2}\} \equiv \frac{\sqrt{S}(1-T)}{\sqrt{T}} \mathcal{A}@\{P_{1,3}[T]\}$$

True



Virtual versions (Archibald, [Ar])



$$\mathcal{A}@\{X_{3,2,3,1}[S, T]\} \equiv (T^{-1/2} - T^{1/2}) \mathcal{A}@\{P_{1,2}[T]\}$$

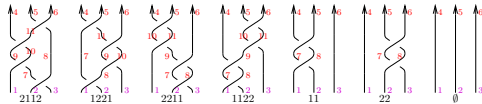
True

$$\mathcal{A}@\{X_{1,3,2,3}\}$$

$$\mathcal{A}[\{1\}, \{2\}, \langle \xi_1 \rightarrow \tau_1, \xi_2 \rightarrow \tau_1 \rangle, \emptyset]$$

Jun Murakami's Third Axiom

(see [Mu])

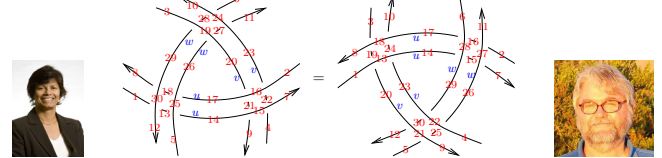


$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A}_{2112} &= \mathcal{A}@\{X_{3,8,7,2}, X_{7,10,9,1}, X_{10,11,4,9}, X_{8,6,5,11}\}; \\ \mathcal{A}_{1221} &= \mathcal{A}@\{X_{2,8,7,1}, X_{3,10,9,8}, X_{10,6,11,9}, X_{11,5,4,7}\}; \\ \mathcal{A}_{2211} &= \mathcal{A}@\{X_{3,8,7,2}, X_{8,6,9,7}, X_{9,11,10,1}, X_{11,5,4,10}\}; \\ \mathcal{A}_{1122} &= \mathcal{A}@\{X_{2,8,7,1}, X_{8,9,4,7}, X_{3,11,10,9}, X_{11,6,5,10}\}; \\ \mathcal{A}_{11} &= \mathcal{A}@\{X_{2,8,7,1}, X_{8,5,4,7}, P_{3,6}\}; \quad \mathcal{A}_{22} = \mathcal{A}@\{X_{3,8,7,2}, X_{8,6,5,7}, P_{1,4}\}; \\ \mathcal{A}_\emptyset &= \mathcal{A}@\{P_{1,4}, P_{2,5}, P_{3,6}\}; \\ g_+[z_-] &:= z^{1/2} + z^{-1/2}; \quad g_-[z_-] := z^{1/2} - z^{-1/2}; \\ g_+[\tau_1] g_-[\tau_2] \mathcal{A}_{2112} - g_-[\tau_2] g_+[\tau_3] \mathcal{A}_{1221} - g_-[\tau_3 / \tau_1] (\mathcal{A}_{2211} + \mathcal{A}_{1122}) + \\ &g_-[\tau_2 \tau_3 / \tau_1] g_+[\tau_3] \mathcal{A}_{11} - g_+[\tau_1] g_-[\tau_2 / \tau_3] \mathcal{A}_{22} \equiv g_-[\tau_3^2 / \tau_1^2] \mathcal{A}_\emptyset \end{aligned}$$

True

The Naik-Stanford Double Delta Move

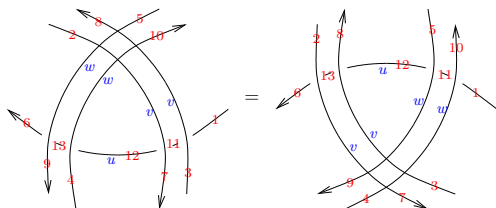
(see [NS])



$$\begin{aligned} \text{Timing}[\mathcal{A}@\{X_{6,10,28,24}[w, v], \bar{X}_{28,3,29,19}[w, v], X_{26,20,27,19}[w, v], \bar{X}_{27,23,11,24}[w, v], \\ X_{1,12,13,30}[u, w], \bar{X}_{13,5,14,25}[u, w], X_{17,26,18,25}[u, w], \bar{X}_{18,29,8,30}[u, w], \\ X_{4,7,22,15}[v, u], \bar{X}_{22,2,23,16}[v, u], X_{20,17,21,16}[v, u], \bar{X}_{21,14,9,15}[v, u]\}] \equiv \\ \mathcal{A}@\{X_{5,9,25,21}[w, v], \bar{X}_{25,4,26,22}[w, v], X_{29,23,30,22}[w, v], \bar{X}_{30,20,12,21}[w, v], \\ X_{2,11,16,27}[u, w], \bar{X}_{16,6,17,28}[u, w], X_{14,29,15,28}[u, w], \bar{X}_{15,26,7,27}[u, w], \\ X_{3,8,19,18}[v, u], \bar{X}_{19,1,20,13}[v, u], X_{23,14,24,13}[v, u], \bar{X}_{24,17,10,18}[v, u]\}] \end{aligned}$$

{190.422, True}

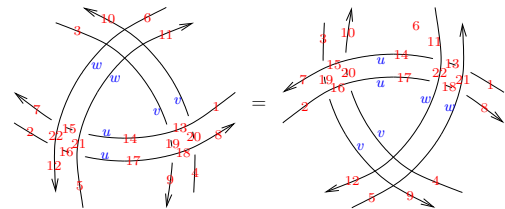
Virtual Version 1 (Archibald, [Ar])



$$\mathcal{A}@\{X_{1,8,11,3}[u, v], \bar{X}_{11,2,12,7}[u, v], X_{12,10,13,4}[u, w], \bar{X}_{13,5,6,9}[u, w]\} \equiv \mathcal{A}@\{X_{1,10,11,4}[u, w], \bar{X}_{11,5,12,9}[u, w], X_{12,8,13,3}[u, v], \bar{X}_{13,2,6,7}[u, v]\}$$

True

Virtual Version 2 (Archibald, [Ar])



$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A}@\{\bar{X}_{20,1,10,13}[v, u], X_{3,14,19,13}[v, u], X_{14,11,15,21}[u, w], \bar{X}_{15,6,7,22}[u, w], \\ X_{2,12,16,22}[u, w], \bar{X}_{16,5,17,21}[u, w], \bar{X}_{19,17,9,18}[v, u], X_{4,8,20,18}[v, u]\} \equiv \\ \mathcal{A}@\{X_{1,11,13,21}[u, w], \bar{X}_{13,6,14,22}[u, w], \bar{X}_{20,14,10,15}[v, u], X_{3,7,19,15}[v, u], \\ \bar{X}_{19,2,9,16}[v, u], X_{4,17,20,16}[v, u], X_{17,12,18,22}[u, w], \bar{X}_{18,5,8,21}[u, w]\} \end{aligned}$$

True

## 5. Some Problems in Heaven

Unfortunately,  $\dim \mathcal{A}(\mathcal{X}, X) = \dim \Lambda(\mathcal{X}, X) = 4^{|\mathcal{X}|}$  is big. Fortunately, we have the following theorem, a version of one of the main results in Halacheva's thesis, [Ha1, Ha2]:

**Theorem.** Working in  $\Lambda(\mathcal{X} \cup X)$ , if  $w = \omega e^\lambda$  is a balanced Gaussian (namely, a scalar  $\omega$  times the exponential of a quadratic  $\lambda = \sum_{\zeta \in \mathcal{X}, z \in X} \alpha_{\zeta, z} \zeta z$ ), then generically so is  $c_{x, \xi} e^\lambda$ . (This is great news! The space of balanced quadratics is only  $|\mathcal{X}| |X|$ -dimensional!)

**Proof.** Recall that  $c_{x, \xi}: (1, \xi, x, x\xi)w' \mapsto (1, 0, 0, 1)w'$ , write  $\lambda = \mu + \eta x + \xi y + \alpha \xi x$ , and ponder  $e^\lambda =$

$$\dots + \frac{1}{k!} \underbrace{(\mu + \eta x + \xi y + \alpha \xi x)(\mu + \eta x + \xi y + \alpha \xi x) \cdots (\mu + \eta x + \xi y + \alpha \xi x)}_{k \text{ factors}} + \dots$$

Then  $c_{x, \xi} e^\lambda$  has three contributions:

- ▶  $e^\mu$ , from the term proportional to 1 (namely, independent of  $\xi$  and  $x$ ) in  $e^\lambda$
- ▶  $-\alpha e^\mu$ , from the term proportional to  $x\xi$ , where the  $x$  and the  $\xi$  come from the same factor above.
- ▶  $\eta y e^\mu$ , from the term proportional to  $x\xi$ , where the  $x$  and the  $\xi$  come from different factors above.

So  $c_{x, \xi} e^\lambda = e^\mu(1 - \alpha + \eta y) = (1 - \alpha)e^\mu(1 + \eta y/(1 - \alpha)) = (1 - \alpha)e^{\mu + \eta y/(1 - \alpha)}$ .

□

## $\Gamma$ -calculus.

Thus we have an almost-always-defined “ $\Gamma$ -calculus”: a contraction algebra morphism  $\mathcal{T}(\mathcal{X}, X) \rightarrow R \times (\mathcal{X} \otimes_{R/R} X)$  whose behaviour under contractions is given by

$$c_{x, \xi}(\omega, \lambda = \mu + \eta x + \xi y + \alpha \xi x) = ((1 - \alpha)\omega, \mu + \eta y/(1 - \alpha)).$$

( $\Gamma$  is fully defined on pure tangles – tangles without closed components – and hence on long knots).

Multiplying and comparing  $\Gamma$  objects:

```

Γ /: Γ[is1_, os1_, cs1_, ω1_, λ1_] × Γ[is2_, os2_, cs2_, ω2_, λ2_] :=
  Γ[is1 ∪ is2, os1 ∪ os2, Join[cs1, cs2], ω1 ω2, λ1 + λ2]
Γ /: Γ[is1_, os1_, ω1_, λ1_] ≡ Γ[is2_, os2_, ω2_, λ2_] :=
  TrueQ[Sort@is1 == Sort@is2] ∧ (Sort@os1 == Sort@os2) ∧
  Simplify[ω1 == ω2] ∧ CF@λ1 == CF@λ2

```

No rules for linear operations!

The crossings and the point:

```

Γ[Xi,j,k,l[S-, T-]] := Γ[{l, i}, {j, k}, <{ξi → S, xj → T, xk → S, ξl → T}>,
  T-1/2, CF[{ξi, ξl}. (1 1 - T / 0 T) . {xj, xk}]];
Γ[X̄i,j,k,l[S-, T-]] := Γ[{i, j}, {k, l}, <{ξi → S, ξj → T, xk → S, xl → T}>,
  T1/2, CF[{ξi, ξj}. (T-1 0 / 1 - T-1 1) . {xk, xl}]];
Γ[Xi,j,k,l] := Γ[Xi,j,k,l[τi, τl]];
Γ[X̄i,j,k,l] := Γ[X̄i,j,k,l[τi, τj]];
Γ[Pi,j[T-]] := Γ[{i}, {j}, <{ξi → T, xj → T}>, 1, ξi xj];
Γ[Pi,j] := Γ[Pi,j[τi]];

```

## 6. An Implementation of $\Gamma$ .

If I didn't implement I wouldn't believe myself.

Written in Mathematica [Wo], available as the notebook Gamma.nb at <http://drorbn.net/mo21/ap>. Code lines are highlighted in grey, demo lines are plain. We start with canonical forms for quadratics with rational function coefficients:

```

CCF[ξ_] := Factor[ξ];
CF[ξ_] := Module[{vs = Union@Cases[ξ, {ξ | x}_, ∞]},
  Total[(CCF[#][2]] (Times @@ vsPower[#]) & /@ CoefficientRules[ξ, vs]]];

```

Contractions:

```

ch,t@Γ[is-, os-, cs-, ω-, λ-] := Module[{α, η, γ, μ},
  α = ∂ξt, xh}; μ = λ /. ξt | xh → 0;
  η = ∂xh, λ /. ξt → 0; γ = ∂ξt, λ /. xh → 0;
  Γ[
    DeleteCases[is, t], DeleteCases[os, h], KeyDrop[cs, {xh, ξt}],
    CCF[(1 - α) ω], CF[μ + η γ / (1 - α)]
  ] /. If[MatchQ[cs[ξt], τ-], cs[ξt] → cs[xh], cs[xh] → cs[ξt]];
c@Γ[is-, os-, cs-, ω-, λ-] := Fold[cm2,m2[#1] &, Γ[is, os, cs, ω, λ], is ∩ os]

```

Automatic intelligent contractions:

```

Γ[{γ- T}] := c[γ];
Γ[{γ1 T, γ2 T}] := Module[{γ2},
  γ2 = First@MaximalBy[{γS}, Length[γ1[[1] ∩ #][2]] + Length[γ1[[2] ∩ #][1]] &];
  Γ[Join[{c[γ1 γ2], DeleteCases[{γS}, γ2]}]]];
Γ[os_List] := Γ[Γ /@ os]

```

Conversions  $\mathcal{A} \leftrightarrow \Gamma$ :

```

Γ@A[is_, os_, cs_, w_] := Module[{i, j, ω = Coefficient[w, Wedge[i, j]],
  Γ[is, os, cs, ω, Sum[Cancel[-Coefficient[w, X_j ^ E_1] E_1 X_j / ω],
    {i, is}, {j, os}]]];
A@Γ[is_, os_, cs_, ω_, λ_] :=
  Γ[is, os, cs, Expand[ω WExp[Expand[λ] /. E_a X_b_ -> E_a ^ X_b]];

```

The conversions are inverses of each other:

```

γ = Γ[{1, 2, 3}, {1, 2, 3}, {X_1 -> T_1, X_2 -> T_2, X_3 -> T_3, E_1 -> T_1, E_2 -> T_2, E_3 -> T_3},
  ω, a_11 X_1 E_1 + a_12 X_2 E_1 + a_13 X_3 E_1 + a_21 X_1 E_2 + a_22 X_2 E_2 + a_23 X_3 E_2 + a_31 X_1 E_3 +
  a_32 X_2 E_3 + a_33 X_3 E_3];
Γ@A@γ = γ

```

True

The conversions commute with contractions:

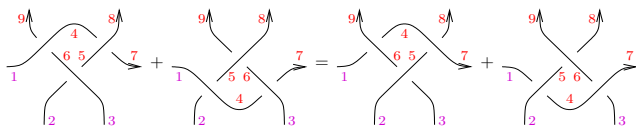
```

Γ@c_3,3@A@γ ≡ c_3,3@γ

```

True

### Conway's Third Identity



Sorry,  $\Gamma$  has nothing to say about that...

### References

J. Archibald, *The Multivariable Alexander Polynomial on Tangles*, University of Toronto Ph.D. thesis, 2010, <http://drorbn.net/mo21/AT>.

J. H. Conway, *An Enumeration of Knots and Links, and some of their Algebraic Properties*, Computational Problems in Abstract Algebra (Proc. Conf., Oxford, 1967), Pergamon, Oxford, 1970, 329–358.

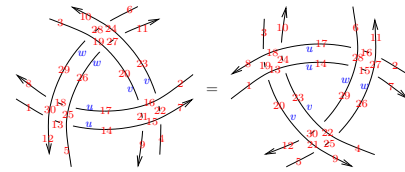
Z. Dancso, I. Halacheva, and M. Robertson, *Circuit Algebras are Wheeled Props*, J. Pure and Appl. Alg., to appear, [arXiv:2009.09738](https://arxiv.org/abs/2009.09738).

I. Halacheva, *Alexander Type Invariants of Tangles, Skew Howe Duality for Crystals and The Cactus Group*, University of Toronto Ph.D. thesis, 2016, <http://drorbn.net/mo21/HT>.

I. Halacheva, *Alexander Type Invariants of Tangles*, [arXiv:1611.09280](https://arxiv.org/abs/1611.09280).

Thank You!

### The Naik-Stanford Double Delta Move (again)



```

Timing[Γ@{X_6,10,28,24[w,v], X_28,3,29,19[w,v], X_26,20,27,19[w,v], X_27,23,11,24[w,v],
  X_1,12,13,30[u,w], X_13,5,14,25[u,w], X_17,26,18,25[u,w], X_18,29,8,30[u,w],
  X_4,7,22,15[v,u], X_22,2,23,16[v,u], X_20,17,21,16[v,u], X_21,14,9,15[v,u]} ≡
  Γ@{X_5,9,25,21[w,v], X_25,4,26,22[w,v], X_29,23,30,22[w,v], X_30,20,12,21[w,v],
  X_2,11,16,27[u,w], X_16,6,17,28[u,w], X_14,29,15,28[u,w], X_15,26,7,27[u,w],
  X_3,8,19,18[v,u], X_19,1,20,13[v,u], X_23,14,24,13[v,u], X_24,17,10,18[v,u]}]
{0.703125, True}

```

### What I still don't understand.

- ▶ What becomes of  $c_{x,\xi} e^\lambda$  if we have to divide by 0 in order to write it again as an exponentiated quadratic? Does it still live within a very small subset of  $\Lambda(\mathcal{X} \sqcup X)$ ?
- ▶ How do cablings and strand reversals fit within  $\mathcal{A}$ ?
- ▶ Are there “classicality conditions” satisfied by the invariants of classical tangles (as opposed to virtual ones)?

M. Markl, S. Merkulov, and S. Shadrin, *Wheeled PROPs, Graph Complexes and the Master Equation*, J. Pure and Appl. Alg. **213-4** (2009) 496–535, [arXiv:math/0610683](https://arxiv.org/abs/math/0610683).

J. Murakami, *A State Model for the Multivariable Alexander Polynomial*, Pacific J. Math. **157-1** (1993) 109–135.

S. Naik and T. Stanford, *A Move on Diagrams that Generates S-Equivalence of Knots*, J. Knot Theory Ramifications **12-5** (2003) 717–724, [arXiv:math/9911005](https://arxiv.org/abs/math/9911005).

Wolfram Language & System Documentation Center, <https://reference.wolfram.com/language/>.



# The Alexander Polynomial is a Quantum Invariant in a Different Way

ωεβ:=http://drorbn.net/cat20/

► On a chat window here I saw a comment “Alexander is the quantum  $gl(1|1)$  invariant”. I have an opinion about this, and I’d like to share it. First, some stories.

I left the wonderful subject of Categorification nearly 15 years ago. It got crowded, lots of very smart people had things to say, and I feared I will have nothing to add. Also, clearly the next step was to categorify all other “quantum invariants”. Except it was not clear what “categorify” means. Worse, I felt that I (perhaps “we all”) didn’t understand “quantum invariants” well enough to try to categorify them, whatever that might mean.

I still feel that way! I learned a lot since 2006, yet I’m still not comfortable with quantum algebra, quantum groups, and quantum invariants. I still don’t feel that I know what God had in mind when She created this topic.

Yet I’m not here to rant about my philosophical quandaries, but only about things that I learned about the Alexander polynomial after 2006.

Yes, the Alexander polynomial fits within the Dogma, “one invariant for every Lie algebra and representation” (it’s  $gl(1|1)$ , I hear). But it’s better to think of it as a quantum invariant arising by other means, outside the Dogma.

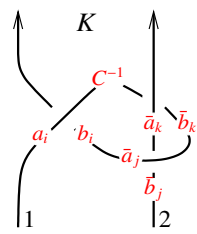
Alexander comes from (or in) practically any non-Abelian Lie algebra. Foremost from the not-even-semi-simple 2D “ $ax + b$ ” algebra. You get a polynomially-sized extension to tangles using some lovely formulas (can you categorify them?). It generalizes to higher dimensions and it has an organized family of siblings. (There are some questions too, beyond categorification).

I note the spectacular existing categorification of Alexander by Ozsváth and Szabó. The theorems are proven and a lot they say, the programs run and fast they run. Yet if that’s where the story ends, She has abandoned us. Or at least abandoned me: a simpleton will never be able to catch up.

If you care only about categorification, the take-home from my talk will be a challenge: Categorify what I believe is the best Alexander invariant for tangles.

**The Yang-Baxter Technique.** Given an algebra  $U$  (typically some  $\hat{U}(\mathfrak{g})$  or  $\hat{U}_q(\mathfrak{g})$ ) and suitable elements  $R, C$ ,

$$R = \sum a_i \otimes b_i \in U \otimes U \quad \text{with} \quad R^{-1} = \sum \bar{a}_i \otimes \bar{b}_i \quad \text{and} \quad C, C^{-1} \in U,$$
$$\text{form} \quad Z(K) = \sum_{i,j,k} a_i C^{-1} \bar{b}_k \bar{a}_j b_i \otimes \bar{b}_j \bar{a}_k.$$



**Problem.** Extract information from  $Z$ .

**The Dogma.** Use representation theory. In principle finite, but *slow*.

**Example 1.** Let  $a := L\langle a, x \rangle / ([a, x] = x)$ ,  $b := a^* = \langle b, y \rangle$ , and  $\mathfrak{g} := b \rtimes a = b \oplus a$  with  $[a, x] = x$ ,  $[a, y] = -y$ ,  $[b, \cdot] = 0$ , and  $[x, y] = b$  and with  $\text{deg}(y, b, a, x) = (1, 1, 0, 0)$ . Let  $U = \hat{U}(\mathfrak{g})$  and

**Gentle’s Agreement.**  
Everything converges!

$$R := e^{b \otimes a + y \otimes x} \in U \otimes U \quad \text{or better} \quad R_{ij} := e^{b_i a_j + y_i x_j} \in U_i \otimes U_j, \quad \text{and} \quad C_i = e^{-b_i / 2}.$$

**Theorem 1.** With “scalars” := power series in  $\{b_i\}$  which are rational functions in  $\{b_i\}$  and  $\{B_i := e^{b_i}\}$ ,

$$Z(K) = \bigcirc_{yba x} \left( \omega^{-1} e^{i^j b_i a_j + q^{ij} y_i x_j} (1 + \epsilon P_1 + \epsilon^2 P_2 + \dots) \right)$$

“normal ordering” at  $yba x$  order

the “ $i$  over  $j$ ” linking numbers (integers)

categorify us! scalars

a docile perturbation for other Lie algebras; semisimple algebras have a hidden parameter  $\epsilon$ !

With Roland van der Veen

Continues Lev Rozansky

a scalar; if  $K$  is a long knot, the Alexander poly  $\Delta(T)$  categorify me!

**Example 2.** Let  $\mathfrak{h} := A\langle p, x \rangle / ([p, x] = 1)$  be the Heisenberg algebra, with  $C_i = e^{t/2}$  and  $R_{ij} = e^{t/2} e^{t(p_i - p_j)x_j}$ . I just told you the whole Alexander story! Everything else is details.

**Claim.**  $R_{ij} = \bigcirc_{px} (e^{(e^t - 1)(p_i - p_j)x_j})$ .

**Theorem 2.**  $Z(K) = \bigcirc_{px} (\omega^{-1} e^{q^{ij} p_i x_j})$  where  $\omega$  and the  $q^{ij}$  are rational functions in  $T = e^t$ . In fact  $\omega$  and  $\omega q^{ij}$  are Laurent polynomials (categorify us!). When  $K$  is a long knot,  $\omega$  is the Alexander polynomial.

**Theorem 3.** Full evaluation via

$$\left( i^{\nearrow j}, j^{\nwarrow i} \right) \rightarrow \begin{array}{c|cc} 1 & x_i & x_j \\ \hline p_i & 0 & T^{i-1} - 1 \\ p_j & 0 & 1 - T^{j-1} \end{array} \quad (1)\square$$

$$K_1 \sqcup K_2 \rightarrow \begin{array}{c|cc} \omega_1 \omega_2 & X_1 & X_2 \\ \hline P_1 & A_1 & 0 \\ P_2 & 0 & A_2 \end{array} \quad (2)\square$$

$$\begin{array}{c|ccc} \omega & x_i & x_j & \dots \\ \hline p_i & \alpha & \beta & \theta \\ p_j & \gamma & \delta & \epsilon \\ \vdots & \phi & \psi & \Xi \end{array} \xrightarrow{hm_k^i} \begin{array}{c|ccc} (1 + \gamma)\omega & & x_k & \dots \\ \hline p_k & 1 + \beta - \frac{(1-\alpha)(1-\delta)}{1+\gamma} & \theta + \frac{(1-\alpha)\epsilon}{1+\gamma} \\ \vdots & \psi + \frac{(1-\delta)\phi}{1+\gamma} & \Xi - \frac{\phi\epsilon}{1+\gamma} \end{array} \quad (3)$$

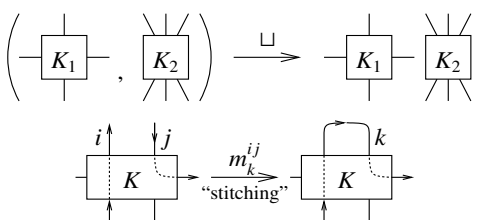
**Packaging.** Write  $\bigcirc_{px} (\omega^{-1} e^{q^{ij} p_i x_j})$  as

$$\mathbb{E}_{p_1, \dots, p_n, x_1, \dots} [\omega, Q] \leftrightarrow \begin{array}{c|ccc} \omega & x_1 & x_2 & \dots \\ \hline p_1 & q^{11} & q^{12} & \dots \\ p_2 & q^{21} & q^{22} & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{array}$$

**The “First Tangle”.**  $Z(K) =$

$$\mathbb{E}_{12} \left[ \frac{2T-1}{T}, \frac{(T-1)(p_1 - p_2)(T x_1 - x_2)}{2T-1} \right]$$
$$= \begin{array}{c|cc} 2-T^{-1} & x_1 & x_2 \\ \hline p_1 & \frac{T(T-1)}{2T-1} & \frac{1-T}{2T-1} \\ p_2 & \frac{T(1-T)}{2T-1} & \frac{T-1}{2T-1} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} K \\ \uparrow \quad \downarrow \\ 1 \quad 2 \end{array}$$

**(v-)Tangles.** Generated by  $\{ \curvearrowright, \curvearrowleft \}$ !



There’s also strand doubling and reversal...

“ $\Gamma$ -calculus” relates via  $A \leftrightarrow I - A^T$  and has slightly simpler formulas:  $\omega \rightarrow (1 - \beta)\omega$ ,

$$\begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \beta & \theta \\ \gamma & \delta & \epsilon \\ \phi & \psi & \Xi \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \gamma + \frac{\alpha\delta}{1-\beta} & \epsilon + \frac{\delta\theta}{1-\beta} \\ \phi + \frac{\alpha\psi}{1-\beta} & \Xi + \frac{\psi\theta}{1-\beta} \end{pmatrix}$$

**Why Should You Categorify This?** The simplest and fastest Alexander for tangles, easily generalizes to the multi-variable case, generalizes to v-tangles and w-tangles, generalizes to other Lie algebras. In fact, it’s in almost any Lie algebra, and you don’t even need to know what is  $gl(1|1)$ ! But you’ll have to deal with denominators and/or divisions!

**Note.** Example 1  $\leftrightarrow$  Example 2 via  $\mathfrak{g} \leftrightarrow \mathfrak{h}(t)$  via  $(y, b, a, x) \mapsto (-tp, t, px, x)$ .

**The PBW Principle** Lots of algebras are isomorphic as vector spaces to polynomial algebras. So we want to understand arbitrary linear maps between polynomial algebras.

**Convention.** For a finite set  $A$ , let  $z_A := \{z_i\}_{i \in A}$  and let  $\zeta_A := \{\zeta_i^* = \zeta_i\}_{i \in A}$ .

**The Generating Series  $\mathcal{G}$ :**  $\text{Hom}(\mathbb{Q}[z_A] \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}[z_B]) \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}[\zeta_A, z_B]$ .

**Claim.**  $L \in \text{Hom}(\mathbb{Q}[z_A] \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}[z_B]) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{G}} \mathbb{Q}[\zeta_A, z_B] \ni \mathcal{L}$  via

$$\mathcal{G}(L) := \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}^A} \frac{\zeta_A^n}{n!} L(z_A^n) = L(\otimes_{a \in A} \zeta_a z_a) = \mathcal{L} = \text{greek } \mathcal{L}_{\text{latin}}$$

$$\mathcal{G}^{-1}(\mathcal{L})(p) = (p|_{z_a \rightarrow \partial_{z_a}} \mathcal{L})_{\zeta_a=0} \quad \text{for } p \in \mathbb{Q}[z_A].$$

**Claim.** If  $L \in \text{Hom}(\mathbb{Q}[z_A] \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}[z_B])$ ,  $M \in \text{Hom}(\mathbb{Q}[z_B] \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}[z_C])$ , then  $\mathcal{G}(L \circ M) = (\mathcal{G}(L)|_{z_b \rightarrow \partial_{z_b}} \mathcal{G}(M))_{\zeta_b=0}$ .

**Examples.** •  $\mathcal{G}(\text{id}: \mathbb{Q}[p, x] \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}[p, x]) = e^{\pi p + \xi x}$ .

• Consider  $R_{ij} \in (\mathfrak{h}_i \otimes \mathfrak{h}_j)[[t]] \cong \text{Hom}(\mathbb{Q}[\ ] \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}[p_i, x_i, p_j, x_j])[[t]]$ .

Then  $\mathcal{G}(R_{ij}) = e^{(e^t - 1)(p_i - p_j)x_j} = e^{(T - 1)(p_i - p_j)x_j}$ .

**Heisenberg Algebras.** Let  $\mathfrak{h} = A\langle p, x \rangle / ([p, x] = 1)$ , let  $\mathcal{O}_i: \mathbb{Q}[p_i, x_i] \rightarrow \mathfrak{h}_i$  is the “ $p$  before  $x$ ” PBW normal ordering map and let  $hm_k^{ij}$  be the composition

$$\mathbb{Q}[p_i, x_i, p_j, x_j] \xrightarrow{\mathcal{O}_i \otimes \mathcal{O}_j} \mathfrak{h}_i \otimes \mathfrak{h}_j \xrightarrow{m_k^{ij}} \mathfrak{h}_k \xrightarrow{\mathcal{O}_k^{-1}} \mathbb{Q}[p_k, x_k].$$

Then  $\mathcal{G}(hm_k^{ij}) = e^{-\xi_i \pi_j + (\pi_i + \pi_j)p_k + (\xi_i + \xi_j)x_k}$ .

**Proof.** Recall the “Weyl CCR”  $e^{\xi x} e^{\pi p} = e^{-\xi \pi} e^{\pi p} e^{\xi x}$ , and find

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{G}(hm_k^{ij}) &= e^{\pi_i p_i + \xi_i x_i + \pi_j p_j + \xi_j x_j} // \mathcal{O}_i \otimes \mathcal{O}_j // m_k^{ij} // \mathcal{O}_k^{-1} \\ &= e^{\pi_i p_i} e^{\xi_i x_i} e^{\pi_j p_j} e^{\xi_j x_j} // m_k^{ij} // \mathcal{O}_k^{-1} = e^{\pi_i p_k} e^{\xi_i x_k} e^{\pi_j p_k} e^{\xi_j x_k} // \mathcal{O}_k^{-1} \\ &= e^{-\xi_i \pi_j} e^{(\pi_i + \pi_j)p_k} e^{(\xi_i + \xi_j)x_k} // \mathcal{O}_k^{-1} = e^{-\xi_i \pi_j + (\pi_i + \pi_j)p_k + (\xi_i + \xi_j)x_k}. \end{aligned}$$

**GDO** := The category with objects finite sets and

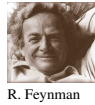
$$\text{mor}(A \rightarrow B) = \{ \mathcal{L} = \omega e^{\mathcal{Q}} \subset \mathbb{Q}[\zeta_A, z_B],$$

where: •  $\omega$  is a scalar. •  $\mathcal{Q}$  is a “small” quadratic in  $\zeta_A \cup z_B$ .

• Compositions:  $\mathcal{L} // \mathcal{M} := (\mathcal{L}|_{z_i \rightarrow \partial_{z_i}} \mathcal{M})_{\zeta_i=0}$ .

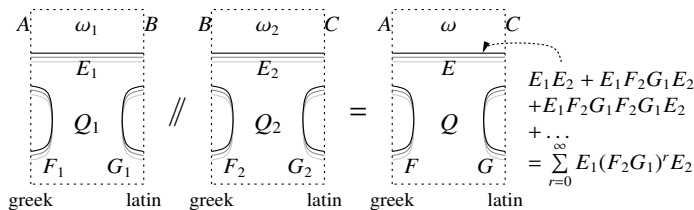
**Compositions.** In  $\text{mor}(A \rightarrow B)$ ,

$$Q = \sum_{i \in A, j \in B} E_{ij} \zeta_i z_j + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i, j \in A} F_{ij} \zeta_i \zeta_j + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i, j \in B} G_{ij} z_i z_j,$$



R. Feynman

and so (remember,  $e^x = 1 + x + xx/2 + xxx/6 + \dots$ )



where •  $E = E_1(I - F_2 G_1)^{-1} E_2$  •  $F = F_1 + E_1 F_2 (I - G_1 F_2)^{-1} E_1^T$  •  $G = G_2 + E_2^T G_1 (I - F_2 G_1)^{-1} E_2$  •  $\omega = \omega_1 \omega_2 \det(I - F_2 G_1)^{-1/2}$

**Proof of Claim in Example 2.** Let  $\Phi_1 := e^{t(p_i - p_j)x_j}$  and  $\Phi_2 := \otimes_{p_j x_j} (e^{(e^t - 1)(p_i - p_j)x_j}) =: \mathcal{O}(\Psi)$ . We show that  $\Phi_1 = \Phi_2$  in  $(\mathfrak{h}_i \otimes \mathfrak{h}_j)[[t]]$  by showing that both solve the ODE  $\partial_t \Phi = (p_i - p_j)x_j \Phi$  with  $\Phi|_{t=0} = 1$ . For  $\Phi_1$  this is trivial.  $\Phi_2|_{t=0} = 1$  is trivial, and

$$\partial_t \Phi_2 = \mathcal{O}(\partial_t \Psi) = \mathcal{O}(e^t (p_i - p_j)x_j \Psi)$$

$$(p_i - p_j)x_j \Phi_2 = (p_i - p_j)x_j \mathcal{O}(\Psi) = (p_i - p_j)\mathcal{O}(x_j \Psi - \partial_{p_j} \Psi)$$

$$= \mathcal{O}((p_i - p_j)(x_j \Psi + (e^t - 1)x_j \Psi)) = \mathcal{O}(e^t (p_i - p_j)x_j \Psi) \quad \square$$

**Implementation.**

Without, don't trust!

CF = ExpandNumerator\*ExpandDenominator\*PowerExpand\*Factor;

```
EA1 -> B1 [omega1, Q1_] EA2 -> B2 [omega2, Q2_] ^:= EA1UA2->B1UB2 [omega1 omega2, Q1 + Q2]
(EA1 -> B1 [omega1, Q1_] // EA2 -> B2 [omega2, Q2_] /; (B1* == A2) :=
Module[{i, j, E1, F1, G1, E2, F2, G2, I, M = Table},
I = IdentityMatrix@Length@B1;
E1 = M[theta_i, j, Q1, {i, A1}, {j, B1}]; E2 = M[theta_i, j, Q2, {i, A2}, {j, B2}];
F1 = M[theta_i, j, Q1, {i, A1}, {j, A1}]; F2 = M[theta_i, j, Q2, {i, A2}, {j, A2}];
G1 = M[theta_i, j, Q1, {i, B1}, {j, B1}]; G2 = M[theta_i, j, Q2, {i, B2}, {j, B2}];
EA1 -> B2 [CF [omega1 omega2 Det[I - F2.G1]^(1/2)], CF@Plus[
If[A1 == {} v B2 == {}, 0, A1.E1.Inverse[I - F2.G1].E2.B2],
If[A1 == {}, 0, 1/2.A1.(F1 + E1.F2.Inverse[I - G1.F2].E1^T).A1],
If[B2 == {}, 0, 1/2.B2.(G2 + E2^T.G1.Inverse[I - F2.G1].E2).B2]]]]]
```

```
A \ B := Complement[A, B];
(EA1 -> B1 [omega1, Q1_] // EA2 -> B2 [omega2, Q2_] /; (B1* != A2) :=
EA1U(A2 \ B1*) -> B1UA2* [omega1, Q1 + Sum[epsilon^* epsilon, {epsilon, A2 \ B1*}]] //
EB1*UA2 -> B2U(B1 \ A2*) [omega2, Q2 + Sum[z^* z, {z, B1 \ A2*}]]
```

```
{p^*, x^*, pi^*, epsilon^*} = {pi, epsilon, p, x}; (u_{-i})^* := (u^*)_i;
L_LiSt^* := #* & /& L;
```

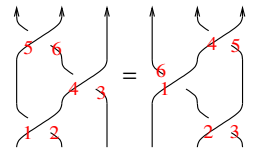
```
R_{i,j,-} := E_{() -> {p_i, x_i, p_j, x_j}} [T^{-1/2}, (1 - T) p_j x_j + (T - 1) p_i x_j];
R_{i,j,+} := E_{() -> {p_i, x_i, p_j, x_j}} [T^{1/2}, (1 - T^{-1}) p_j x_j + (T^{-1} - 1) p_i x_j];
C_{i,-} := E_{() -> {p_i, x_i}} [T^{-1/2}, 0];
C_{i,+} := E_{() -> {p_i, x_i}} [T^{1/2}, 0];
```

```
hm_{i,j,->k} := E_{[pi_i, epsilon_i, pi_j, epsilon_j] -> {p_k, x_k}} [1, -epsilon_i pi_j + (pi_i + pi_j) p_k + (epsilon_i + epsilon_j) x_k]
```

```
E_{() -> vs [omega_i, Q_i]_h := Module[{ps, xs, M},
ps = Cases[vs, p_]; xs = Cases[vs, x_];
M = Table[omega_i, 1 + Length@ps, 1 + Length@xs];
M[[2 ;;, 2 ;;]] = Table[CF[theta_i, j, Q_i], {i, ps}, {j, xs}];
M[[2 ;;, 1]] = ps; M[[1, 2 ;;]] = xs;
MatrixForm[M]_h]
```

**Proof of Reidemeister 3.**

$$(R_{1,2} R_{4,3} R_{5,6} // hm_{1,4 \rightarrow 1} hm_{2,5 \rightarrow 2} hm_{3,6 \rightarrow 3}) == (R_{2,3} R_{1,6} R_{4,5} // hm_{1,4 \rightarrow 1} hm_{2,5 \rightarrow 2} hm_{3,6 \rightarrow 3})$$



True

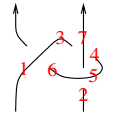
**The “First Tangle”.**

Factor /@

$$(z = R_{1,6} \bar{C}_3 \bar{R}_{7,4} \bar{R}_{5,2} // hm_{1,3 \rightarrow 1} // hm_{1,4 \rightarrow 1} // hm_{1,5 \rightarrow 1} // hm_{1,6 \rightarrow 1} // hm_{2,7 \rightarrow 2})$$

$$E_{() -> \{p_1, p_2, x_1, x_2\}} \left[ \frac{-1 + 2T}{T}, \frac{(-1 + T)(p_1 - p_2)(T x_1 - x_2)}{-1 + 2T} \right]$$

$$z_h \left( \begin{matrix} \frac{-1+2T}{T} & x_1 & x_2 \\ p_1 & \frac{-1+T^2}{-1+2T} & \frac{1-T}{-1+2T} \\ p_2 & \frac{T-T^2}{-1+2T} & \frac{-1+T}{-1+2T} \end{matrix} \right)_h$$

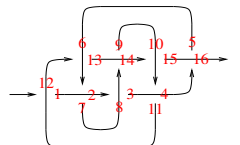


**The knot 8<sub>17</sub>.**

$$z = \bar{R}_{12,1} \bar{R}_{27} \bar{R}_{83} \bar{R}_{4,11} \bar{R}_{16,5} \bar{R}_{6,13} \bar{R}_{14,9} \bar{R}_{10,15};$$

Table[z = z // hm\_{1k \rightarrow 1}, {k, 2, 16}] // Last

$$E_{() -> \{p_1, x_1\}} \left[ \frac{1 - 4T + 8T^2 - 11T^3 + 8T^4 - 4T^5 + T^6}{T^3}, 0 \right]$$



**Proof of Theorem 3, (3).**

$$\left\{ \gamma 1 = E_{() -> \{p_1, x_1, p_2, x_2, p_3, x_3\}} \left[ \omega, \{p_1, p_2, p_3\} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \beta & \theta \\ \gamma & \delta & \epsilon \\ \phi & \psi & \xi \end{pmatrix} \cdot \{x_1, x_2, x_3\} \right]_h \right\}$$

$$(\gamma 1 // hm_{1,2 \rightarrow \emptyset})_h$$

$$\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} \omega & x_1 & x_2 & x_3 \\ p_1 & \alpha & \beta & \theta \\ p_2 & \gamma & \delta & \epsilon \\ p_3 & \phi & \psi & \xi \end{pmatrix}_h, \left( \begin{matrix} \omega + \gamma \omega & x_0 & x_3 \\ p_0 & \frac{\alpha\beta + \gamma\beta\gamma + \delta - \alpha\delta}{1 + \gamma} & \frac{\epsilon - \alpha\epsilon + \theta\gamma\theta}{1 + \gamma} \\ p_3 & \frac{\phi - \delta\phi + \psi + \gamma\psi}{1 + \gamma} & \frac{\xi + \gamma\xi - \epsilon\phi}{1 + \gamma} \end{matrix} \right)_h \right\}$$

**References.**

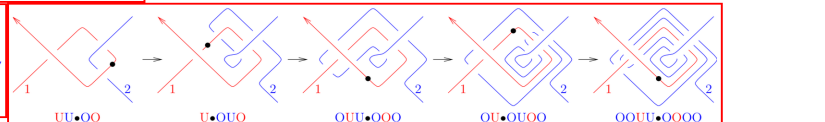
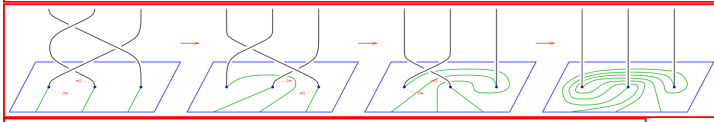
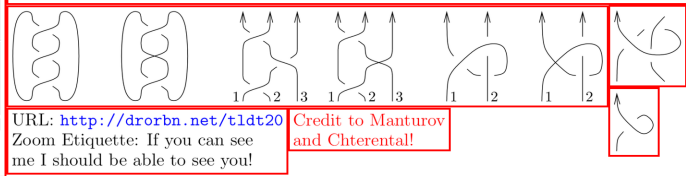
On  $\omega\epsilon\beta = \text{http://drorbn.net/cat20}$



$m \setminus n$	2	3	4	5	6	General $n$
0	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	3	5	7	9	11	$2n - 1$
2	5	17	33	53	77	$2n^2 + 2n - 7$
3	7	47	131	259	439	$\frac{1}{3}(4n^3 + 18n^2 - 22n - 63)$ ( $n > 2$ )
4	9	115	469	1143	2233	
5	11	263	1579	4743	10603	
6	13	577	5121	18941	48209	
7	15	1233	16219	73817	213119	
8	17	2589	50581	283165	924825	
9	19	5371				
$m$	$2m + 1$	$12 \cdot 2^{m-1} - 2F_{m+5} - 2m - 1$ ?				

$n$ -strand (pure) virtual braids with  $(\leq m)$ -xing:

$m \setminus n$	2	3	4	5	6	General $n$
0	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	5	13	25	41	61	$2n^2 - 2n + 1$
2	17	145	529	1361	2881	$2n^4 + 4n^3 - 18n^2 + 12n + 1$
3	53	1561	10873	43121	127021	$\frac{1}{3}(4n^6 + 36n^5 - 2n^4 - 546n^3 + 1066n^2 - 558n + 3)$
4	161	16717	222289	1351481	5484721	
5	485	178873	4540201			
6	1457	1913737				
$m$	$2 \cdot 3^{m-1}$					



$n$ -strand classical braids with  $(\leq m)$ -xing:

$m \setminus n$	2	3	4	5	6	General $n$
0	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	3	5	7	9	11	$2n - 1$
2	5	17	33	53	77	$2n^2 + 2n - 7$
3	7	47	131	259	439	$\frac{1}{3}(4n^3 + 18n^2 - 22n - 63)$ ( $n > 2$ )
4	9	115	469	1143	2233	
5	11	263	1579	4743	10603	
6	13	577	5121	18941	48209	
7	15	1233	16219	73817	213119	
8	17	2589	50581	283165	924825	
9	19	5371				
$m$	$2m + 1$	$12 \cdot 2^{m-1} - 2F_{m+5} - 2m - 1$ ?				

### Over then Under Tangles

**Trends in Low-Dimensional Topology, online, May 5 2020, noon.**

**Abstract.** Brilliant wrong ideas should not be buried and forgotten. Instead, they should be mined for the gold that lies underneath the layer of wrong. In this paper we explain how "over then under tangles" lead to an easy classification of braids and under the surface, also to some valid mathematics: an easy classification of braids and virtual braids, an understanding of the Drinfel'd double procedure in quantum algebra, and more.

Based on a [paper in preparation](#) with Zsuzsanna Dancso and Roland van der Veer.

Handout: [EGOU.html](#), [EGOU.png](#).

[DBN](#) [Talk Video](#).

[Pensieve](#).

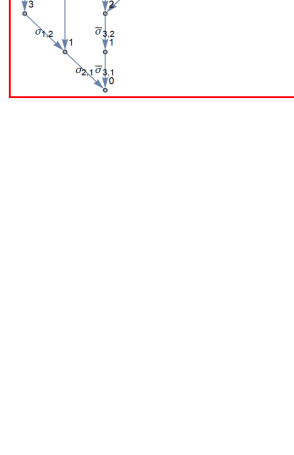
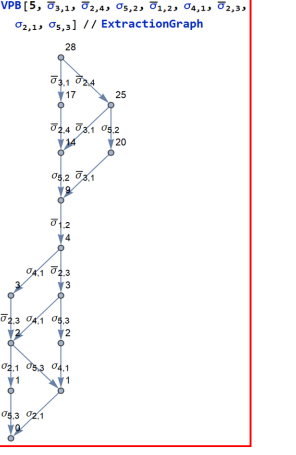
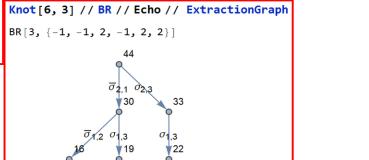
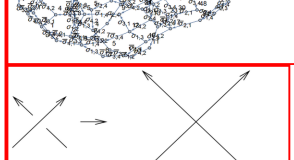
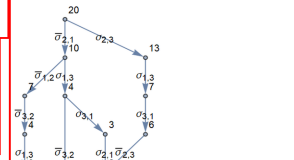
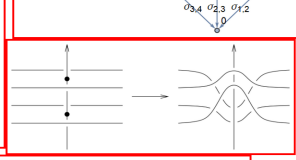
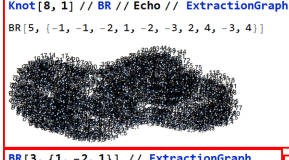
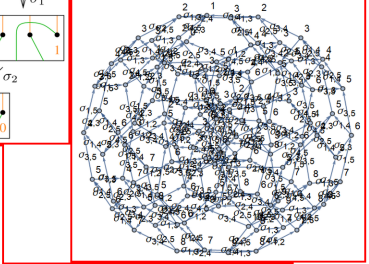
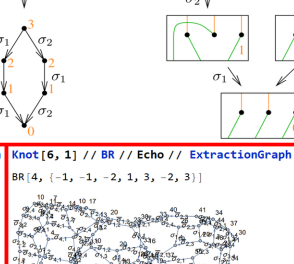
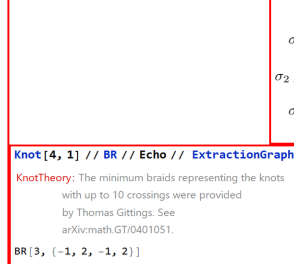
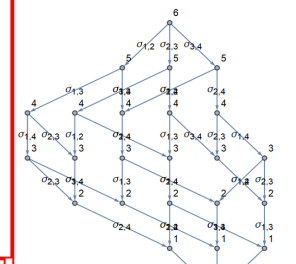
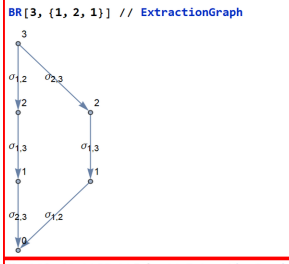
URL: <http://drorbn.net/tldt20>.

Not what I do, but the tangent I was on for the last few weeks. But first, the tangent to the tangent I was playing with over the last few *days*. Possibly an embarrassment!

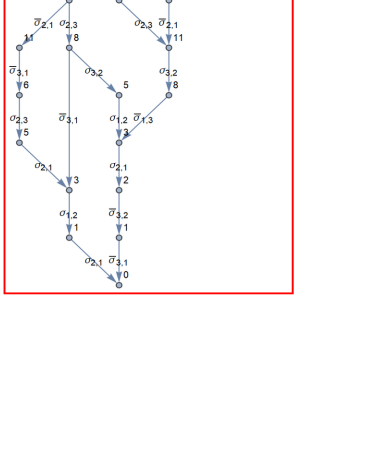
Every braid (classical or virtual) has a directed finite graph associated with it. These are cool!

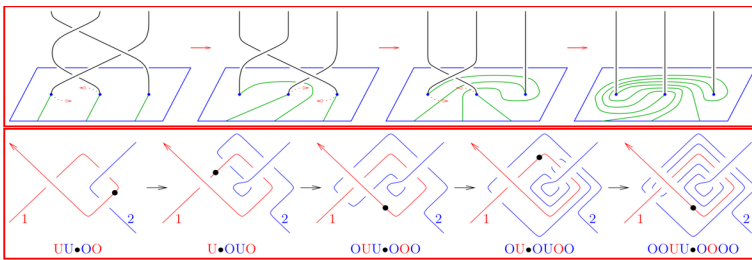
- Enriquez' universal quantization of Lie bi-algebra.
- All else about quantization of Lie bi-algebra.
- PBW / normal ordering.
- Audoux-Perilhan "Characterization of the Reduced Perihel System of Links".
- B-N's "Balloons and Hoops" paper.

This is Demo.nb at <http://drorbn.net/ap/Talks/TrendsInLDT-2005/>.



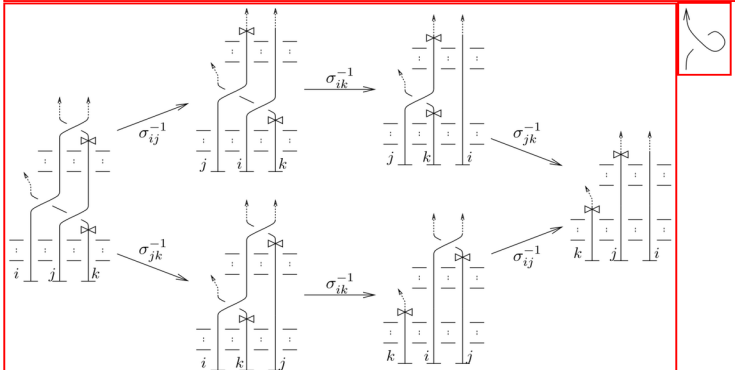
- Subsets.
- Supersets.
- Subsets of supersets.
- Completions.
- Quotients.
- Images.
- Completions of subsets of supersets...





$n$ -strand (pure) virtual braids with  $(\leq m)$ -xing:

$m \setminus n$	2	3	4	5	6	General $n$
0	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	5	13	25	41	61	$2n^2 - 2n + 1$
2	17	145	529	1361	2881	$2n^4 + 4n^3 - 18n^2 + 12n + 1$
3	53	1561	10873	43121	127021	$\frac{1}{3}(4n^6 + 36n^5 - 2n^4 - 546n^3 + 1066n^2 - 558n + 3)$
4	161	16717	222289	1351481	5484721	
5	485	178873	4540201			
6	1457	1913737				



### OVER THEN UNDER TANGLES

DROR BAR-NATAN, ZSUZSANNA DANCOS, AND ROLAND VAN DER VEEN

**ABSTRACT.** Brilliant wrong ideas should not be buried and forgotten. Instead, they should be mined for the gold that lies underneath the layer of wrong. In this paper we explain how “over then under tangles” lead to an easy classification of knots, and under the surface, also to some valid mathematics: a separation theorem for braids and virtual braids, a topological understanding of the Drinfel’d double construction of quantum group theory, and more.

SetAttributes[VD, Orderless]

```
Tidy[vd_VD] := Module[{ps = Union@@(List@@@vd)},
  Replace[vd, Thread[ps -> Range@Length@ps], {2}]]
```

```
R12Reduce1[vd_VD] := Tidy@Module[{R2s, R2}, Which[
  Length[R2s = Cases[vd, Xs[[i, j] -> Xs[[i + 1, j + 1]]] &] > 0,
  Complement[vd, VD[R2 = First@R2s, R2 /. Xs[[i, j] -> Xs[[i - 1, j - 1]]]],
  Length[R2s = Cases[vd, Xs[[i, j] -> Xs[[i + 1, j - 1]]] &] > 0,
  Complement[vd, VD[R2 = First@R2s, R2 /. Xs[[i, j] -> Xs[[i - 1, j + 1]]]],
  True, DeleteCases[vd, Xs[[i, j] /; Abs[i - j] = 1]]]]
```

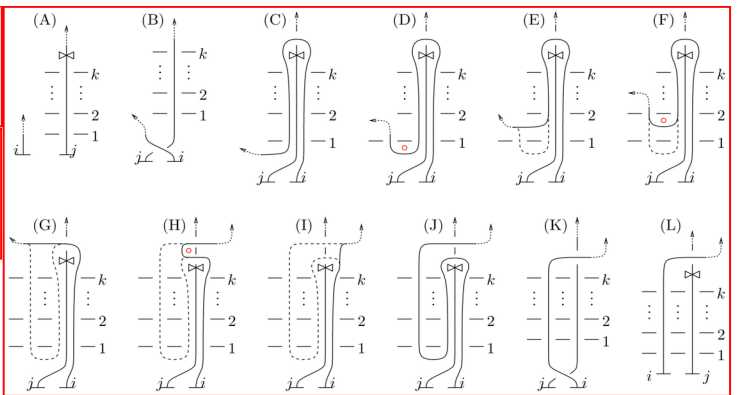
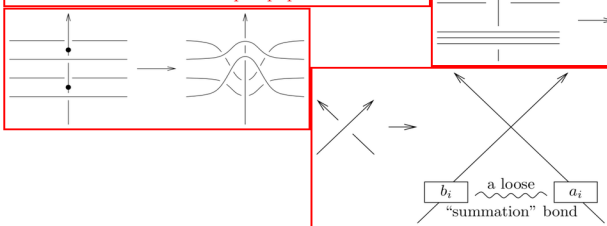
R12Reduce[vd\_VD] := FixedPoint[R12Reduce1, vd]

```
gamma[vd_VD] := Module[{js, s1, i1, j1, s2, i2, j2},
  js = Cases[vd, Xs[[i, j] -> j] &] & Cases[vd, Xs[[i, _] -> i - 1] &;
  If[Length[js] == 0, vd,
  j1 = RandomChoice[js]; i2 = j1 + 1;
  Cases[vd, Xs[[i, j1] -> (s1 = s; i1 = i)]];
  Cases[vd, Xs[[i2, j] -> (s2 = s; j2 = j)]];
  Tidy@Join[Complement[vd, VD[Xs1[[i1, j1], Xs2[[i2, j2]]],
  VD[Xs2[[j1, j2], Xs1[[i1, i2], Xs1s2[[i1 - s1/3, j2 + s2/3],
  Xs1s2[[i1 + s1/3, j2 - s2/3]]]]]]]]
```

F[vd\_VD] := FixedPoint[gamma, vd, 2^8]

F[T\_] /; Head[T] = VD := F[VD[T]]

- Enriquez’ universal quantization of Lie bi-algebra.
- All else about quantization of Lie bi-algebra.
- PBW / normal ordering.
- Audoux-Meilhan “Characterization of the Reduced Peripheral System of Links”.
- B-N’s “Balloons and Hoops” paper.



F[vd\_VD] := FixedPoint[R12Reduce\*\*gamma, vd, 2^8]

F[T\_] /; Head[T] = VD := F[VD[T]]

VPB[n, {os\_}] := VPB[n, os];

```
VD /; vd1_VD ** vd2_VD := Module[{es1, es2, m2},
  es1 = Cases[vd1, EOS[[i] -> i]];
  m2 = Max[es2 = Cases[vd2, EOS[[i] -> i]];
  Tidy[
  vd1 | Replace[DeleteCases[vd2, _EOS],
  i_ -> i/m2 - 1 + es1[[1 + Count[es2, e_ /; i > e]]], {2}]]]
```

```
VD[VPB[n]] := VD @@ (EOS /@ Range[n]);
VD[VPB[n, sigma_i_j]] := Tidy@Append[VD @@ (EOS /@ Range[n]), Xs1[[i - 0.5, j - 0.5]];
VD[VPB[n, sigma_bar_i_j]] := Tidy@Append[VD @@ (EOS /@ Range[n]), Xs1[[i - 0.5, j - 0.5]];
VD[VPB[n, sigma, os_]] := VD[VPB[n, sigma]] ** VD[VPB[n, os]]]
```

VPBGenerators[n\_] :=

```
VPBGenerators[n] =
  Flatten@Table[{sigma_i_j, sigma_bar_i_j}, {i, n}, {j, DeleteCases[Range@n, i]}];
```

ProudFollowers[n\_, sigma\_i\_j] := ProudFollowers[n, sigma\_i\_j] = Module[{p, q, s},

```
  Flatten@{sigma_i_j, sigma_j_i, sigma_j_i};
  Table[{sigma_p_q, sigma_q_p, sigma_p_q, sigma_bar_p_q}, {p, {i, j}}, {q, Complement[Range[n], {i, j}]}];
  Table[{sigma_p_q, sigma_bar_p_q}, {p, Complement[Range[i + 1, n], {j}]},
  {q, Complement[Range[n], {i, j, p}]}];
];];
```

ProudFollowers[n\_, sigma\_bar\_i\_j] := ProudFollowers[n, sigma\_bar\_i\_j] = ProudFollowers[n, sigma\_i\_j] /. sigma\_i\_j -> sigma\_bar\_i\_j

ProudVPBs[n\_, 0] := {VPB[n]};

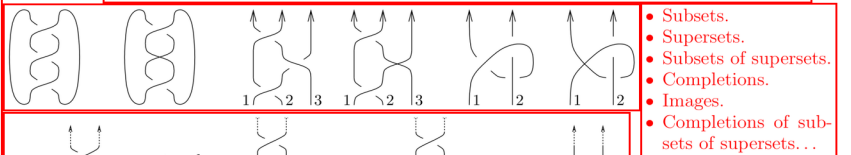
ProudVPBs[n\_, 1] := VPB[n, #] & /@ VPBGenerators[n];

ProudVPBs[n\_, m] /; m > 1 :=

```
  Flatten[ProudVPBs[n, m - 1] /
  VPB[n, os_ , sigma] -> (VPB[n, os, #] & /@ ProudFollowers[n, sigma])]
```

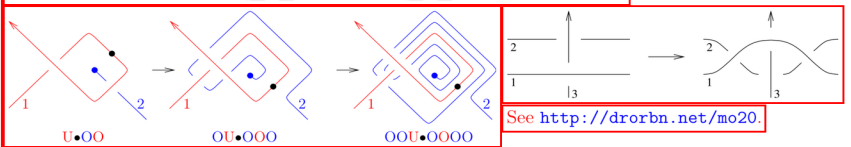
CountOUForms[n\_, m] := Module[{k},

```
  Length@Union@Flatten@Table[F@vpb, {k, 0, m}, {vpb, ProudVPBs[n, k]}]]
```

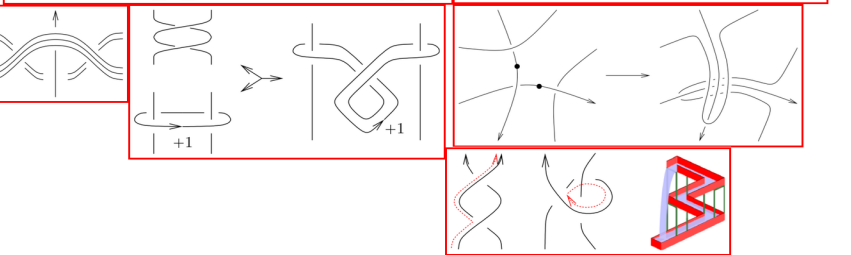
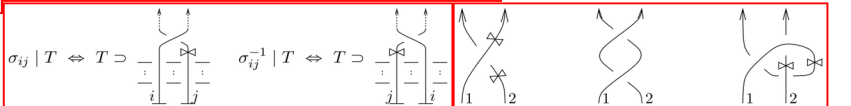


- Subsets.
- Supersets.
- Subsets of supersets.
- Completions.
- Images.
- Completions of subsets of supersets...

Credit to Manturov and Chterental!



See <http://drorbn.net/mo20>.



# Chord Diagrams, Knots, and Lie Algebras

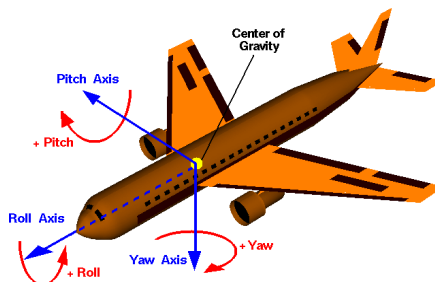
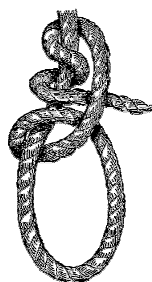


**Abstract.** This will be a service talk on ancient material — I will briefly describe how the exact same type of chord diagrams (and relations between them) occur in a natural way in both knot theory and in the theory of Lie algebras.

*While preparing for this talk I realized that I've done it before, much better, within a book review. So here's that review! It has been modified from its original version: it had been formatted to fit this page, parts were highlighted, and commentary had been added in green italics.*

[Book] *Introduction to Vassiliev Knot Invariants*, by S. Chmutov, S. Duzhin, and J. Mostovoy, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge UK, 2012, xvi+504 pp., hardback, \$70.00, ISBN 978-1-10702-083-2.

Merely 30 36 years ago, if you had asked even the best informed mathematician about the relationship between knots and Lie algebras, she would have laughed, for there isn't and there can't be. Knots are flexible; Lie algebras are rigid. Knots are irregular; Lie algebras are symmetric. The list of knots is a lengthy mess; the collection of Lie algebras is well-organized. Knots are useful for sailors, scouts, and hangmen; Lie algebras for navigators, engineers, and high energy physicists. Knots are blue collar; Lie algebras are white. They are as similar as worms and crystals: both well-studied, but hardly ever together.



$$\begin{aligned} [X,Y]&=Z \\ [Y,Z]&=X \\ [Z,X]&=Y \end{aligned} \quad Y = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$



A knot and a Lie algebra, a list of knots and a list of Lie algebras, and an unusual conference of the symmetric and the knotted.

Then in the 1980s came Jones, and Witten, and Reshetikhin and Turaev [Jo, Wi, RT] and showed that if you really are the best informed, and you know your quantum field theory and conformal field theory and quantum groups, then you know that the two disjoint fields are in fact intricately related. This “quantum” approach remains the most powerful way to get computable knot invariants out of (certain) Lie algebras (and representations thereof). Yet shortly later, in the late 80s and early 90s, an alternative perspective arose, that of “finite-type” or “Vassiliev-Goussarov” invariants [Va1, Va2, Go1, Go2, BL, Ko1, Ko2, BN1], which made the surprising relationship between knots and Lie algebras appear simple and almost inevitable.

many threads that begin with that perspective. Let me start with a brief summary of the mathematics, and even before, an even briefer summary.

*In briefest, a certain space  $\mathcal{A}$  of chord diagrams is the dual to the dual of the space of knots, and at the same time, it is dual to Lie algebras.*

The reviewed [Book] is about that alternative perspective, the one reasonable sounding but not entirely trivial theorem that is crucially needed within it (the “Fundamental Theorem” or the “Kontsevich integral”), and the

The briefer summary is that in some combinatorial sense it is possible to “differentiate” knot invariants, and hence it makes sense to talk about “polynomials” on the space of knots — these are functions on the set of knots (namely, these are knot invariants) whose sufficiently high derivatives vanish. Such polynomials can be fairly conjectured to separate knots — elsewhere in math in lucky cases polynomials separate points, and in our case, specific computations are encouraging. Also, such polynomials are determined by their “coefficients”, and each of these, by the one-side-easy “Fundamental Theorem”, is a linear functional on some finite space of

2010 *Mathematics Subject Classification*. Primary 57M25.

Published *Bull. Amer. Math. Soc.* **50** (2013) 685–690. TeX at <http://drorbn.net/AcademicPensieve/2013-01/CDMReview/>, copleft at <http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Copyleft/>. This review was written while I was a guest at the Newton Institute, in Cambridge, UK. I wish to thank N. Bar-Natan, I. Halacheva, and P. Lee for comments and suggestions.

graphs modulo relations. These same graphs turn out to parameterize formulas that make sense in a wide class of Lie algebras, and the said relations match exactly with the relations in the definition of a Lie algebra — anti-symmetry and the Jacobi identity. Hence what is more or less dual to knots (invariants), is also, after passing to the coefficients, dual to certain graphs which are more or less dual to Lie algebras. QED, and on to the less brief summary<sup>1</sup>.

Let  $V$  be an arbitrary invariant of oriented knots in oriented space with values in (say)  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Extend  $V$  to be an invariant of 1-singular knots, knots that have a single singularity that locally looks like a double point  $\nearrow \searrow$ , using the formula

$$(1) \quad V(\nearrow \searrow) = V(\nearrow \nearrow) - V(\searrow \searrow).$$

Further extend  $V$  to the set  $\mathcal{K}^m$  of  $m$ -singular knots (knots with  $m$  such double points) by repeatedly using (1).

**Definition 1.** We say that  $V$  is of type  $m$  (or “Vassiliev of type  $m$ ”) if its extension  $V|_{\mathcal{K}^{m+1}}$  to  $(m + 1)$ -singular knots vanishes identically. We say that  $V$  is of finite type (or “Vassiliev”) if it is of type  $m$  for some  $m$ .

Repeated differences are similar to repeated derivatives and hence it is fair to think of the definition of  $V|_{\mathcal{K}^m}$  as repeated differentiation. With this in mind, the above definition imitates the definition of polynomials of degree  $m$ . Hence finite type invariants can be thought of as “polynomials” on the space of knots<sup>2</sup>. It is known (see e.g. [Book]) that the class of finite type invariants is large and powerful. Yet the first question on finite type invariants remains unanswered:

**Problem 2.** *Honest polynomials are dense in the space of functions. Are finite type invariants dense within the space of all knot invariants? Do they separate knots?*

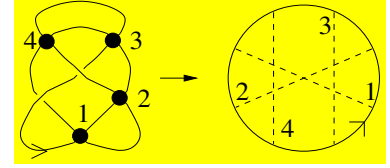
The top derivatives of a multi-variable polynomial form a system of constants that determine that polynomial up to polynomials of lower degree. Likewise the  $m$ th derivative<sup>3</sup>  $V^{(m)} = V|_{\mathcal{K}^m} = V(\nearrow \searrow \cdot \cdot \cdot \nearrow \searrow)$  of a type  $m$  invariant  $V$  is a constant in the sense that it does not see the difference between overcrossings and undercrossings and so it is blind to 3D topology. Indeed

$$V(\nearrow \searrow \cdot \cdot \cdot \nearrow \nearrow) - V(\nearrow \searrow \cdot \cdot \cdot \searrow \searrow) = V(\nearrow \searrow \cdot \cdot \cdot \nearrow \searrow) = 0.$$

Also, clearly  $V^{(m)}$  determines  $V$  up to invariants of lower type. Hence a primary tool in the study of finite

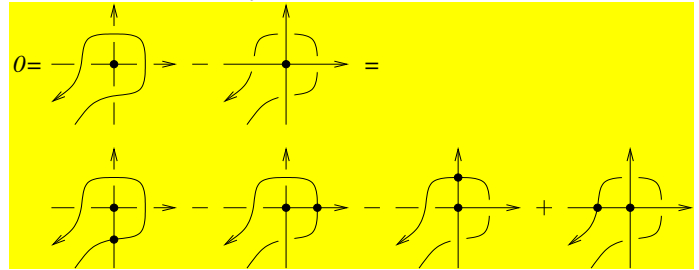
type invariants is the study of the “top derivative”  $V^{(m)}$ , also known as “the weight system of  $V$ ”.

Blind to 3D topology,  $V^{(m)}$  only sees the combinatorics of the circle that parameterizes an  $m$ -singular knot.



On this circle there are  $m$  pairs of points that are pairwise identified in the image; standardly one indicates those by drawing a circle with  $m$  chords marked (an “ $m$ -chord diagram”) as above. Let  $\mathcal{D}_m$  denote the space of all formal linear combinations with rational coefficients of  $m$ -chord diagrams. Thus  $V^{(m)}$  is a linear functional on  $\mathcal{D}_m$ .

I leave it for the reader to figure out or read in [Book, pp. 88] how the following figure easily implies the “4T” relations of the “easy side” of the theorem that follows:



**Theorem 3.** (The Fundamental Theorem, details in [Book]).

- (Easy side) If  $V$  is a rational valued type  $m$  invariant then  $V^{(m)}$  satisfies the “4T” relations shown above, and hence it descends to a linear functional on  $\mathcal{A}_m := \mathcal{D}_m/4T$ . If in addition  $V^{(m)} \equiv 0$ , then  $V$  is of type  $m - 1$ .
- (Hard side, slightly misstated by avoiding “framings”) For any linear functional  $W$  on  $\mathcal{A}_m$  there is a rational valued type  $m$  invariant  $V$  so that  $V^{(m)} = W$ .

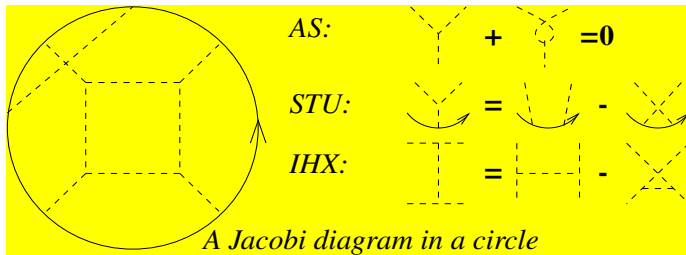
Thus to a large extent the study of finite type invariants is reduced to the finite (though super-exponential in  $m$ ) algebraic study of  $\mathcal{A}_m$ .

Much of the richness of finite type invariants stems from their relationship with Lie algebras. Theorem 4 below suggests this relationship on an abstract level and Theorem 5 makes that relationship concrete.

<sup>1</sup>Partially self-plagiarized from [BN2].

<sup>2</sup>Keep this apart from invariants of knots whose values are polynomials, such as the Alexander or the Jones polynomial. A posteriori related, these are a priori entirely different.

<sup>3</sup>As common in the knot theory literature, in the formulas that follow a picture such as  $\nearrow \searrow \cdot \cdot \cdot \nearrow \searrow$  indicates “some knot having  $m$  double points and a further (right-handed) crossing”. Furthermore, when two such pictures appear within the same formula, it is to be understood that the parts of the knots (or diagrams) involved *outside* of the displayed pictures are to be taken as the same.



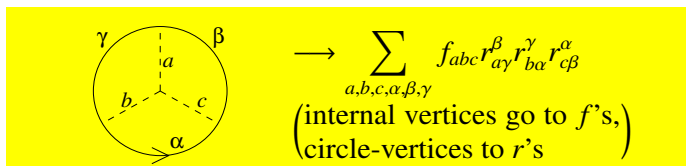
**Theorem 4.** [BN1] *The space  $\mathcal{A}_m$  is isomorphic to the space  $\mathcal{A}_m^t$  generated by “Jacobi diagrams in a circle” (chord diagrams that are also allowed to have oriented internal trivalent vertices) that have exactly  $2m$  vertices, modulo the AS, STU and IHX relations. See the figure above.*

The key to the proof of Theorem 4 is the figure above, which shows that the  $4T$  relation is a consequence of two  $STU$  relations. The rest is more or less an exercise in induction.

Thinking of internal trivalent vertices as graphical analogs of the Lie bracket, the AS relation becomes the anti-commutativity of the bracket,  $STU$  becomes the equation  $[x, y] = xy - yx$  and  $IHX$  becomes the Jacobi identity. This analogy is made concrete within the following construction, originally due to Penrose [Pe] and to Cvitanović [Cv]. Given a finite dimensional metrized Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$  (e.g., any semi-simple Lie algebra) and a finite-dimensional representation  $\rho : \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \text{End}(V)$  of  $\mathfrak{g}$ , choose an orthonormal basis<sup>4</sup>  $\{X_a\}_{a=1}^{\dim \mathfrak{g}}$  of  $\mathfrak{g}$  and some basis  $\{v_\alpha\}_{\alpha=1}^{\dim V}$  of  $V$ , let  $f_{abc}$  and  $r_{ab}^\gamma$  be the “structure constants” defined by

$$f_{abc} := \langle [X_a, X_b], X_c \rangle \quad \text{and} \quad \rho(X_a)(v_\beta) = \sum_\gamma r_{a\beta}^\gamma v_\gamma.$$

Now given a Jacobi diagram  $D$  label its circle-arcs with Greek letters  $\alpha, \beta, \dots$ , and its chords with Latin letters  $a, b, \dots$ , and map it to a sum as suggested by the following example:



**Theorem 5.** *This construction is well defined, and the basic properties of Lie algebras imply that it respects the AS, STU, and IHX relations. Therefore it defines a linear functional  $W_{\mathfrak{g},\rho} : \mathcal{A}_m \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$ , for any  $m$ .*

The last assertion along with Theorem 3 show that associated with any  $\mathfrak{g}$ ,  $\rho$  and  $m$  there is a weight system and

<sup>4</sup>This requirement can easily be relaxed.

hence a knot invariant. Thus knots are indeed linked with Lie algebras.

The above is of course merely a sketch of the beginning of a long story. You can read the details, and some of the rest, in [Book].



**What I like about [Book].** Detailed, well thought out, and carefully written. Lots of pictures! Many excellent exercises! A complete discussion of “the algebra of chord diagrams”. A nice discussion of the pairing of diagrams with Lie algebras, including examples aplenty. The discussion of the Kontsevich integral (meaning, the proof of the hard side of Theorem 3) is terrific — detailed and complete and full of pictures and examples, adding a great deal to the original sources. The subject of “associators” is huge and worthy of its own book(s); yet in as much as they are related to Vassiliev invariants, the discussion in [Book] is excellent. A great many further topics are touched — multiple  $\zeta$ -values, the relationship of the Hopf link with the Duflo isomorphism, intersection graphs and other combinatorial aspects of chord diagrams, Rozansky’s rationality conjecture, the Melvin-Morton conjecture, braids,  $n$ -equivalence, etc.

For all these, I’d certainly recommend [Book] to any newcomer to the subject of knot theory, starting with my own students.

However, some proofs other than that of Theorem 3 are repeated as they appear in original articles with only a superficial touch-up, or are omitted altogether, thus missing an opportunity to clarify some mysterious points. This includes Vogel’s construction of a non-Lie-algebra weight system and the Goussarov-Polyak-Viro proof of the existence of “Gauss diagram formulas”.

**What I wish there was in the book, but there isn’t.** The relationship with Chern-Simons theory, Feynman diagrams, and configuration space integrals, culminating in an alternative (and more “3D”) proof of the Fundamental Theorem. This is a major omission.

**Why I hope there will be a continuation book, one day.** There’s much more to the story! There are finite type invariants of 3-manifolds, and of certain classes of 2-dimensional knots in  $\mathbb{R}^4$ , and of “virtual knots”, and they each have their lovely yet non-obvious theories, and these theories link with each other and with other branches of Lie theory, algebra, topology, and quantum field theory. Volume 2 is sorely needed.

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Dror Bar-Natan

University of Toronto, Canada

December 6, 2019 (first edition February 7, 2013)

My talk yesterday:

More Dror: [ωεβ/talks](http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Talks/Toronto-1912/)

Dror Bar-Natan: Talks: Toronto-1912    ωεβ:=http://drorbn.net/to19/

### Geography vs. Identity

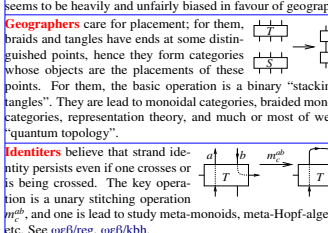
Thanks for inviting me to the *Topology* session!

**Abstract.** Which is better, an emphasis on where things happen or on who are the participants? I can't tell; there are advantages and disadvantages either way. Yet much of quantum topology seems to be heavily and unfairly biased in favour of geography.

**Geographers** care for placement; for them, braids and tangles have ends at some distinguished points, hence they form categories whose objects are the placements of these points. For them, the basic operation is a binary “stacking of tangles”. They are lead to monoidal categories, braided monoidal categories, representation theory, and much or most of we call “quantum topology”.

**Identifiers** believe that strand identity persists even if one crosses or is being crossed. The key operation is a unary stitching operation  $m_c^{ab}$ , and one is lead to study meta-monoids, meta-Hopf-algebras, etc. See [oeff/leg](http://oeff/leg), [oeff/kbh](http://oeff/kbh).

**Braids.**



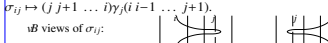
Geography:  $GB := \langle \gamma_i \mid \gamma_i \gamma_k = \gamma_k \gamma_i \text{ when } |i-k| > 1 \rangle = B$ .  
(captures quantum algebra!)

Identity:  $IB := \langle \sigma_{ij} \mid \sigma_{ij} \sigma_{kl} = \sigma_{kl} \sigma_{ij} \text{ when } \{|i, j, k, l\} = 4\} = PAB$ .

**Theorem.** Let  $S = \langle \tau \rangle$  be the symmetric group. Then  $\mathfrak{B}$  is both  $PAB \rtimes S \cong B * S \langle \gamma_i \tau = \tau \gamma_i \text{ when } \tau i = j, \tau(i+1) = (j+1) \rangle$  (and so  $PAB$  is “bigger” than  $B$ , and hence quantum algebra doesn't see topology very well).

**Proof.** Going left,  $\gamma_i \mapsto \sigma_{i,i+1}(i+1)$ . Going right, if  $i < j$  map  $\sigma_{ij} \mapsto (j-1 \ j-2 \ \dots \ i) \gamma_{j-1}(i+1 \ \dots \ j)$  and if  $i > j$  use  $\sigma_{ij} \mapsto (j \ j+1 \ \dots \ i) \gamma_j(i-1 \ \dots \ j+1)$ .

$\mathfrak{B}$  views of  $\sigma_{ij}$ :



**The Burau Representation** of  $PAB_n$  acts on  $\mathbb{R}^n := \mathbb{Z}[t^{\pm 1}]^n = R(v_1, \dots, v_n)$  by  $\sigma_{ij} v_k = v_k + \delta_{kj}(t-1)(v_j - v_i)$ .

$\delta := \delta_{i,j} := \mathbf{1f}[i=j, 1, 0]$     ωεβ/code

$B_{i,j}[\mathcal{L}] := \mathcal{L} / \cdot v_n \rtimes v_n + \delta_{ij}(t-1)(v_j - v_i) // \text{Expand}$

$(\text{bas3} = \{v_1, v_2, v_3\} // B_{1,2}$   
 $\{v_1, v_1 - t v_1 + t v_2, v_3\}$   
 $\text{bas3} // B_{1,2} // B_{1,3} // B_{2,3}$   
 $\{v_1, v_1 - t v_1 + t v_2, v_1 - t v_1 + t v_2 - t^2 v_2 + t^2 v_3\}$   
 $\text{bas3} // B_{2,3} // B_{1,3} // B_{1,2}$   
 $\{v_1, v_1 - t v_1 + t v_2, v_1 - t v_1 + t v_2 - t^2 v_2 + t^2 v_3\}$

$S_n$  acts on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  by permuting the  $v_i$ , so the Burau representation extends to  $\mathfrak{B}_n$  and restricts to  $B_n$ . With this,  $\gamma_i$  maps  $v_i \mapsto v_{i+1}, v_{i+1} \mapsto v_i, v_{i+1}(1-t)v_{i+1}$ , and otherwise  $v_k \mapsto v_k$ .

### Geography view:

$\gamma_1 = \times \mid \mid \mid \quad \gamma_2 = \mid \times \mid \mid \quad \gamma_3 = \mid \mid \times \mid \mid \dots$   
so  $x$  is  $\gamma_2$ .

### Identity view:

At  $x$  strand 1 crosses strand 3, so  $x$  is  $\sigma_{13}$ .

**The Gold Standard** is set by the “T-calculus” Alexander formulas (ωεβ/mac). An  $S$ -component tangle  $T$  has  $\Gamma(T) \in R_S \times M_{S \times S}(R_S) = \begin{pmatrix} \omega & S \\ S & A \end{pmatrix}$  with  $R_S := \mathbb{Z}\langle T_a : a \in S \rangle$ :

$(a' \times b', b' \times a) \rightarrow \frac{1}{a} \mid \frac{1}{b} \mid \frac{1 - T_a^{a'}}{T_a^{a'}} \mid T_1 \sqcup T_2 \rightarrow \frac{\omega_1 \omega_2}{S_1} \mid \frac{S_1}{S_2} \mid \frac{S_1}{A_1} \mid \frac{S_2}{A_2} \mid$

$\omega \mid \frac{a}{\alpha} \mid \frac{b}{\beta} \mid \frac{S}{\theta} \mid \frac{m_c^{ab}}{\delta} \mid \frac{c}{\psi} \mid \frac{S}{\Xi} \mid \frac{(1-\beta)\omega}{c} \mid \frac{S}{\Xi} \mid \frac{S}{\Xi}$   
 $\frac{a}{b} \mid \frac{\alpha}{\gamma} \mid \frac{\beta}{\delta} \mid \frac{\theta}{\epsilon} \mid \frac{m_c^{ab}}{S} \mid \frac{c}{S} \mid \frac{S}{\Xi} \mid \frac{\gamma + \frac{c\omega}{1-\beta}}{\phi + \frac{c\omega}{1-\beta}} \mid \frac{\epsilon + \frac{c\omega}{1-\beta}}{\Xi + \frac{c\omega}{1-\beta}}$

**The Gassner Representation** of  $PAB_n$  acts on  $V = \mathbb{R}^n := \mathbb{Z}[t^{\pm 1}]^n = R(v_1, \dots, v_n)$  by  $\sigma_{ij} v_k = v_k + \delta_{kj}(t-1)(v_j - v_i)$ .

$B_{i,j}[\mathcal{L}] := \mathcal{L} / \cdot v_n \rtimes v_n + \delta_{ij}(t-1)(v_j - v_i) // \text{Expand}$

$(\text{bas3} // G_{1,2} // G_{1,3} // G_{2,3}) = (\text{bas3} // G_{2,3} // G_{1,3} // G_{1,2})$

True

$S_n$  acts on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  by permuting the  $v_i$  and the  $t_i$ , so the Gassner representation extends to  $\mathfrak{B}_n$  and then restricts to  $B_n$  as a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -linear  $\infty$ -dimensional representation. It then descends to  $PB_n$  as a finite-rank  $\mathbb{R}$ -linear representation, with lengthy non-local formulas.

**Geographers:** Gassner is an obscure partial extension of Burau.

**Identifiers:** Burau is a trivial silly reduction of Gassner.

**The Turbo-Gassner Representation.** With the same  $R$  and  $V$ ,  $TG$  acts on  $V \oplus (R^n \oplus V) \oplus (S^2 V \oplus V^n) = R(v_i, u_i, u_i u_i w_i)$  by  $TG_{i,j}[\mathcal{L}] := \mathcal{L} / \cdot \{$

$v_n \rtimes v_n + \delta_{ij}((t-1)(v_j - v_i) + v_{i,j} - v_{i,i}) +$   
 $\delta_{ij}(u_j - u_i) u_i w_i;$   
 $v_{i,i} \rtimes v_{i,i} + (t_i - 1) \cdot$   
 $(\delta_{i,j}(v_{i,j} - v_{i,i}) + (\delta_{i,i} - \delta_{i,j} t_i^2) t_i)$   
 $(u_i + \delta_{ij}(t_i - 1)(u_j - u_i)) u_i w_i;$   
 $u_n \rtimes u_n + \delta_{ij}(t_i - 1)(u_j - u_i);$   
 $w_n \rtimes w_n + (\delta_{i,j} - \delta_{i,i})(t_i^2 - 1) w_i // \text{Expand}$

$\text{bas3} = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, u_1^2 w_1, u_2^2 w_2, u_3^2 w_3, v_{1,2}, v_{2,2}, v_{3,2}, v_{1,3}, v_{2,3}, v_{3,3}, u_1^2 u_2 w_1, u_1 u_2 w_2, u_1 u_2 w_3, u_2 u_1 w_1, u_2 u_1 w_2, u_2 u_1 w_3, u_3 u_1 w_1, u_3 u_1 w_2, u_3 u_1 w_3, u_2 u_2 w_1, u_2 u_2 w_2, u_2 u_2 w_3\};$


$(\text{bas3} // TG_{1,2} // TG_{1,3} // TG_{2,3}) = (\text{bas3} // TG_{2,3} // TG_{1,3} // TG_{1,2})$

True

Like Gassner,  $TG$  is also a representation of  $PB_n$ .

**I have no idea where it belongs!**

My talk tomorrow, at the *chord diagrams everywhere* session:



More Dror: [ωεβ/talks](http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Talks/Toronto-1912/)

Picture credits: Rope from “The Project Gutenberg eBook, *Knots, Splices and Rope Work*, by A. Hyatt Verrill”, <http://www.gutenberg.org/files/13510/13510-h/13510-h.htm>. Plane from NASA, <http://www.grc.nasa.gov/WWW/k-12/airplane/rotations.html>.

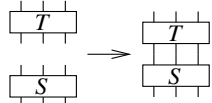


# Geography vs. Identity

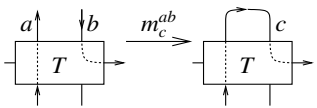
Thanks for inviting me to the *Topology* session!

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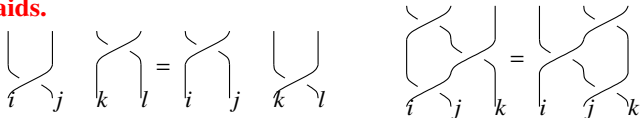
**Geographers** care for placement; for them, braids and tangles have ends at some distinguished points, hence they form categories whose objects are the placements of these points. For them, the basic operation is a binary "stacking of tangles". They are lead to monoidal categories, braided monoidal categories, representation theory, and much or most of we call "quantum topology".



**Identifiers** believe that strand identity persists even if one crosses or is being crossed. The key operation is a unary stitching operation  $m_c^{ab}$ , and one is lead to study meta-monoids, meta-Hopf-algebras, etc. See ωεβ/reg, ωεβ/kbh.



## Braids.



Geography:

$$GB := \langle \gamma_i \rangle \left( \begin{array}{l} \gamma_i \gamma_k = \gamma_k \gamma_i \text{ when } |i - k| > 1 \\ \gamma_i \gamma_{i+1} \gamma_i = \gamma_{i+1} \gamma_i \gamma_{i+1} \end{array} \right) = B.$$

Identity:

(captures quantum algebra!)

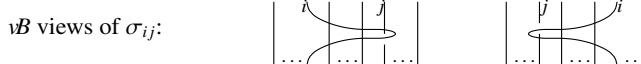
$$IB := \langle \sigma_{ij} \rangle \left( \begin{array}{l} \sigma_{ij} \sigma_{kl} = \sigma_{kl} \sigma_{ij} \text{ when } \{|i, j, k, l|\} = 4 \\ \sigma_{ij} \sigma_{ik} \sigma_{jk} = \sigma_{jk} \sigma_{ik} \sigma_{ij} \text{ when } \{|i, j, k|\} = 3 \end{array} \right) = PB.$$

**Theorem.** Let  $S = \{\tau\}$  be the symmetric group. Then  $vB$  is both

$$PB \rtimes S \cong B * S \left( \begin{array}{l} \gamma_i \tau = \tau \gamma_j \text{ when } \tau i = j, \tau(i+1) = (j+1) \end{array} \right)$$

(and so  $PB$  is "bigger" than  $B$ , and hence quantum algebra doesn't see topology very well).

**Proof.** Going left,  $\gamma_i \mapsto \sigma_{i,i+1}(i \ i+1)$ . Going right, if  $i < j$  map  $\sigma_{ij} \mapsto (j-1 \ j-2 \ \dots \ i) \gamma_{j-1}(i \ i+1 \ \dots \ j)$  and if  $i > j$  use  $\sigma_{ij} \mapsto (j \ j+1 \ \dots \ i) \gamma_j(i \ i-1 \ \dots \ j+1)$ .



## The Burau Representation of PB\_n acts on R^n :=

$\mathbb{Z}[t^{\pm 1}]^n = R\langle v_1, \dots, v_n \rangle$  by

$$\sigma_{ij} v_k = v_k + \delta_{kj}(t-1)(v_j - v_i).$$

$\delta /: \delta_{i,j} := \text{If}[i = j, 1, 0];$

ωεβ/code



Werner Burau

$B_{i,j}[\underline{\varepsilon}] := \mathcal{E} / . v_{k-} \mapsto v_k + \delta_{k,j} (t-1) (v_j - v_i) // \text{Expand}$

(bas3 = {v1, v2, v3}) // B1,2

{v1, v1 - t v1 + t v2, v3}

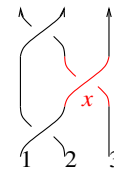
bas3 // B1,2 // B1,3 // B2,3

{v1, v1 - t v1 + t v2, v1 - t v1 + t v2 - t^2 v2 + t^2 v3}

bas3 // B2,3 // B1,3 // B1,2

{v1, v1 - t v1 + t v2, v1 - t v1 + t v2 - t^2 v2 + t^2 v3}

$S_n$  acts on  $R^n$  by permuting the  $v_i$  so the Burau representation extends to  $vB_n$  and restricts to  $B_n$ . With this,  $\gamma_i$  maps  $v_i \mapsto v_{i+1}, v_{i+1} \mapsto t v_i + (1-t) v_{i+1}$ , and otherwise  $v_k \mapsto v_k$ .



## Geography view:

$$\gamma_1 = \text{diagram}, \quad \gamma_2 = \text{diagram}, \quad \gamma_3 = \text{diagram} \dots$$

so  $x$  is  $\gamma_2$ .

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At  $x$  strand 1 crosses strand 3, so  $x$  is  $\sigma_{13}$ .



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$$\Gamma(T) \in R_S \times M_{S \times S}(R_S) = \left\{ \frac{\omega}{S} \middle| \frac{S}{A} \right\} \text{ with } R_S := \mathbb{Z}\langle T_a : a \in S \rangle:$$

$$(a \overset{*}{\leftarrow} b, b \overset{*}{\leftarrow} a) \rightarrow \frac{1}{a} \begin{array}{c|c} a & b \\ \hline 1 & 1 - T_a^{\pm 1} \end{array} \quad T_1 \sqcup T_2 \rightarrow \frac{\omega_1 \omega_2}{S_1} \begin{array}{c|c} S_1 & S_2 \\ \hline A_1 & 0 \\ S_2 & 0 \end{array} A_2$$

$$\begin{array}{c|c} \omega & a \quad b \quad S \\ \hline a & \alpha \quad \beta \quad \theta \\ b & \gamma \quad \delta \quad \epsilon \\ S & \phi \quad \psi \quad \Xi \end{array} \xrightarrow{m_c^{ab}} \begin{array}{c|c} (1-\beta)\omega & c \quad S \\ \hline c & \gamma + \frac{\alpha\delta}{1-\beta} \quad \epsilon + \frac{\delta\theta}{1-\beta} \\ S & \phi + \frac{\alpha\psi}{1-\beta} \quad \Xi + \frac{\psi\theta}{1-\beta} \end{array}$$

## The Gassner Representation of PB\_n acts on V =

$R^n := \mathbb{Z}[t^{\pm 1}, \dots, t_n^{\pm 1}]^n = R\langle v_1, \dots, v_n \rangle$  by

$$\sigma_{ij} v_k = v_k + \delta_{kj}(t_i - 1)(v_j - v_i).$$



Betty Jane Gassner deserves to be more famous

$G_{i,j}[\underline{\varepsilon}] := \mathcal{E} / . v_{k-} \mapsto v_k + \delta_{k,j} (t_i - 1) (v_j - v_i) // \text{Expand}$

(bas3 // G1,2 // G1,3 // G2,3) = (bas3 // G2,3 // G1,3 // G1,2)

True

$S_n$  acts on  $R^n$  by permuting the  $v_i$  and the  $t_i$ , so the Gassner representation extends to  $vB_n$  and then restricts to  $B_n$  as a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -linear  $\infty$ -dimensional representation. It then descends to  $PB_n$  as a finite-rank  $R$ -linear representation, with lengthy non-local formulas.

**Geographers:** Gassner is an obscure partial extension of Burau.

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## The Turbo-Gassner Representation. With the same

$R$  and  $V$ ,  $TG$  acts on  $V \oplus (R^n \otimes V) \oplus (S^2 V \otimes V^*) =$

$R\langle v_k, v_{lk}, u_i u_j w_k \rangle$  by

$$TG_{i,j}[\underline{\varepsilon}] := \mathcal{E} / . \left\{ \begin{array}{l} v_{k-} \mapsto v_k + \delta_{k,j} ((t_i - 1) (v_j - v_i) + v_{i,j} - v_{i,i}) + \delta_{k,i} (u_j - u_i) u_i w_j, \\ v_{l-,k} \mapsto v_{l-,k} + (t_i - 1) \times (\delta_{l,j} (v_{l,j} - v_{l,i}) + (\delta_{l,i} - \delta_{l,j} t_i^{-1} t_j) (u_k + \delta_{k,j} (t_i - 1) (u_j - u_i)) u_i w_j), \\ u_{i-} \mapsto u_i + \delta_{k,j} (t_i - 1) (u_j - u_i), \\ w_{i-} \mapsto w_i + (\delta_{k,j} - \delta_{k,i}) (t_i^{-1} - 1) w_j // \text{Expand} \end{array} \right.$$



With Roland van der Veen

Gassner motifs  
Adjoint-Gassner

$$\text{bas3} = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, v_{1,1}, v_{1,2}, v_{1,3}, v_{2,1}, v_{2,2}, v_{2,3}, v_{3,1}, v_{3,2}, v_{3,3}, u_1^2 w_1, u_1^2 w_2, u_1^2 w_3, u_1 u_2 w_1, u_1 u_2 w_2, u_1 u_2 w_3, u_1 u_3 w_1, u_1 u_3 w_2, u_1 u_3 w_3, u_2^2 w_1, u_2^2 w_2, u_2^2 w_3, u_2 u_3 w_1, u_2 u_3 w_2, u_2 u_3 w_3, u_3^2 w_1, u_3^2 w_2, u_3^2 w_3\};$$

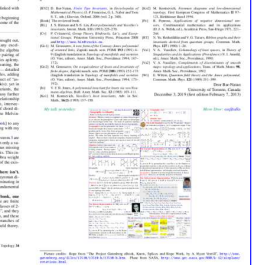
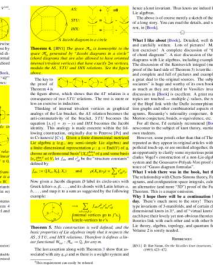
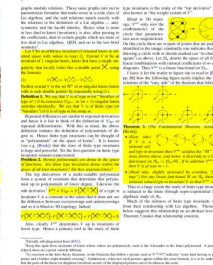
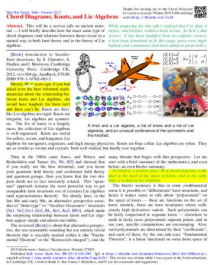
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True

Like Gassner,  $TG$  is also a representation of  $PB_n$ .

I have no idea where it belongs!

My talk tomorrow, at the *chord diagrams everywhere* session:





**Abstract.** I will explain how the computation of compositions of maps of a certain natural class, from one polynomial ring into another, naturally leads to a certain composition operation of quadratics and to Feynman diagrams. I will also explain, with very little detail, how this is used in the construction of some very well-behaved poly-time computable knot polynomials.

**The PBW Principle** Lots of algebras are isomorphic as vector spaces to polynomial algebras. So we want to understand arbitrary linear maps between polynomial algebras.

**Gentle Agreement.** Everything converges!

**Convention.** For a finite set  $A$ , let  $z_A := \{z_i\}_{i \in A}$  and let  $\zeta_A := \{\zeta_i^* = \zeta_i\}_{i \in A}$ .  $(y, b, a, x)^* = (\eta, \beta, \alpha, \xi)$

**The Generating Series  $\mathcal{G}$ :**  $\text{Hom}(\mathbb{Q}[z_A] \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}[z_B]) \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}[\{\zeta_A, z_B\}]$ .

**Claim.**  $L \in \text{Hom}(\mathbb{Q}[z_A] \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}[z_B]) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{G}} \mathbb{Q}[\{z_B\}][\{\zeta_A\}] \ni \mathcal{L}$  via

$$\mathcal{G}(L) := \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}^A} \frac{\zeta_A^n}{n!} L(z_A^n) = L(\oplus_{a \in A} \zeta_a z_a) = \mathcal{L} = \text{greek } \mathcal{L}_{\text{latin}}$$

$$\mathcal{G}^{-1}(\mathcal{L})(p) = (p|_{z_a \rightarrow \partial_{z_a} \mathcal{L}})_{\zeta_a=0} \text{ for } p \in \mathbb{Q}[z_A].$$

**Claim.** If  $L \in \text{Hom}(\mathbb{Q}[z_A] \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}[z_B])$ ,  $M \in \text{Hom}(\mathbb{Q}[z_B] \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}[z_C])$ , then  $\mathcal{G}(L/M) = (\mathcal{G}(L)|_{z_b \rightarrow \partial_{z_b} \mathcal{G}(M)})_{\zeta_b=0}$ .

**Basic Examples. 1.**  $\mathcal{G}(\text{id}: \mathbb{Q}[y, a, x] \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}[y, a, x]) = e^{\eta y + \alpha a + \xi x}$ .

2. The standard commutative product  $m_k^{ij}$  of polynomials is given by  $z_i, z_j \rightarrow z_k$ . Hence  $\mathcal{G}(m_k^{ij}) = m_k^{ij}(\oplus \zeta_i z_i + \zeta_j z_j) = e^{(\zeta_i + \zeta_j) z_k}$ .

3. The standard co-commutative co-product  $\Delta_{jk}^i$  of polynomials is given by  $z_i \rightarrow z_j + z_k$ . Hence  $\mathcal{G}(\Delta_{jk}^i) = \Delta_{jk}^i(\oplus \zeta_i z_i) = e^{\zeta_i(z_j + z_k)}$ .

**Heisenberg Algebras.** Let  $\mathbb{H} = \langle x, y \rangle / [x, y] = \hbar$  (with  $\hbar$  a scalar), let  $\mathbb{O}_i: \mathbb{Q}[x_i, y_i] \rightarrow \mathbb{H}_i$  is the “ $x$  before  $y$ ” PBW ordering map and let  $hm_k^{ij}$  be the composition

$$\mathbb{Q}[x_i, y_i, x_j, y_j] \xrightarrow{\mathbb{O}_i \otimes \mathbb{O}_j} \mathbb{H}_i \otimes \mathbb{H}_j \xrightarrow{m_k^{ij}} \mathbb{H}_k \xrightarrow{\mathbb{O}_k^{-1}} \mathbb{Q}[x_k, y_k].$$

Then  $\mathcal{G}(hm_k^{ij}) = e^{\Lambda \hbar}$ , where  $\Lambda \hbar = -\hbar \eta_i \xi_j + (\xi_i + \xi_j) x_k + (\eta_i + \eta_j) y_k$ .

**Proof 1.** Recall the “Weyl form of the CCR”  $e^{\eta y} e^{\xi x} = e^{-\hbar \eta \xi} e^{\xi x} e^{\eta y}$ , and compute

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{G}(hm_k^{ij}) &= e^{\xi_i x_i + \eta_i y_i + \xi_j x_j + \eta_j y_j} // \mathbb{O}_i \otimes \mathbb{O}_j // m_k^{ij} // \mathbb{O}_k^{-1} \\ &= e^{\xi_i x_i} e^{\eta_i y_i} e^{\xi_j x_j} e^{\eta_j y_j} // m_k^{ij} // \mathbb{O}_k^{-1} = e^{\xi_i x_k} e^{\eta_i y_k} e^{\xi_j x_k} e^{\eta_j y_k} // \mathbb{O}_k^{-1} \\ &= e^{-\hbar \eta_i \xi_j} e^{(\xi_i + \xi_j) x_k} e^{(\eta_i + \eta_j) y_k} // \mathbb{O}_k^{-1} = e^{\Lambda \hbar}. \end{aligned}$$

**Proof 2.** We compute in a faithful 3D representation  $\rho$  of  $\mathbb{H}$ :

$$\{\hat{x} = \begin{pmatrix} \theta & 1 & \theta \\ \theta & \theta & \theta \\ \theta & \theta & \theta \end{pmatrix}, \hat{y} = \begin{pmatrix} \theta & \theta & \theta \\ \theta & \theta & \hbar \\ \theta & \theta & \theta \end{pmatrix}, \hat{c} = \begin{pmatrix} \theta & \theta & 1 \\ \theta & \theta & \theta \\ \theta & \theta & \theta \end{pmatrix}\}; \quad (\omega \epsilon \beta / \text{hm})$$

$$\{\hat{x} \cdot \hat{y} - \hat{y} \cdot \hat{x} = \hbar \hat{c}, \hat{x} \cdot \hat{c} = \hat{c} \cdot \hat{x}, \hat{y} \cdot \hat{c} = \hat{c} \cdot \hat{y}\}$$

{True, True, True}

$$\Lambda = -\hbar \eta_i \xi_j c_k + (\xi_i + \xi_j) x_k + (\eta_i + \eta_j) y_k;$$

**Simplify@With** [ { $\mathbb{E}$  = MatrixExp },

$$\begin{aligned} &\mathbb{E}[\hat{x} \xi_i] \cdot \mathbb{E}[\hat{y} \eta_i] \cdot \mathbb{E}[\hat{x} \xi_j] \cdot \mathbb{E}[\hat{y} \eta_j] = \\ &\mathbb{E}[\hat{x} \partial_{x_k} \Lambda] \cdot \mathbb{E}[\hat{y} \partial_{y_k} \Lambda] \cdot \mathbb{E}[\hat{c} \partial_{c_k} \Lambda] \end{aligned}$$

True

**A Real DoPeGDO Example** (DoPeGDO:=Docile Perturbed Gaussian Differential Operators). Let  $sl_{2+}^\epsilon := L\langle y, b, a, x \rangle$  subject to  $[a, x] = x$ ,  $[b, y] = -\epsilon y$ ,  $[a, b] = 0$ ,  $[a, y] = -y$ ,  $[b, x] = \epsilon x$ , and  $[x, y] = \epsilon a + b$ . So  $t := \epsilon a - b$  is central and if  $\exists \epsilon^{-1}$ ,  $sl_{2+}^\epsilon \cong sl_2 \oplus \langle t \rangle$ . Let  $CU := \mathcal{U}(sl_{2+}^\epsilon)$ , and let  $cm_k^{ij}$  be the composition below, where  $\mathbb{O}_i: \mathbb{Q}[y_i, b_i, a_i, x_i] \rightarrow CU_i$  be the PBW ordering map in the order  $y$   $x$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} CU_i \otimes CU_j & \xrightarrow{m_k^{ij}} & CU_k \\ \uparrow \mathbb{O}_{i,j} & & \uparrow \mathbb{O}_k \\ \mathbb{Q}[y_i, b_i, a_i, x_i, y_j, b_j, a_j, x_j] & \xrightarrow{cm_k^{ij}} & \mathbb{Q}[y_k, b_k, a_k, x_k] \end{array}$$

**Claim.** Let (all braun and no brains)

$$\begin{aligned} \Lambda &= \left( \eta_i + \frac{e^{-\alpha_i - \epsilon \beta_i} \eta_j}{1 + \epsilon \eta_j \xi_i} \right) y_k + \left( \beta_i + \beta_j + \frac{\log(1 + \epsilon \eta_j \xi_i)}{\epsilon} \right) b_k + \\ &\quad \left( \alpha_i + \alpha_j + \log(1 + \epsilon \eta_j \xi_i) \right) a_k + \left( \frac{e^{-\alpha_j - \epsilon \beta_j} \xi_i}{1 + \epsilon \eta_j \xi_i} + \xi_j \right) x_k \end{aligned}$$

Then  $e^{\eta_i y_i + \beta_i b_i + \alpha_i a_i + \xi_i x_i + \eta_j y_j + \beta_j b_j + \alpha_j a_j + \xi_j x_j} // \mathbb{O}_{i,j} // cm_k^{ij} = e^{\Lambda} // \mathbb{O}_k$ , and hence  $\mathcal{G}(cm_k^{ij}) = e^{\Lambda}$ .

**Proof.** We compute in a faithful 2D representation  $\rho$  of  $CU$ :

$$\{\hat{y} = \begin{pmatrix} \theta & \theta \\ \epsilon & \theta \end{pmatrix}, \hat{b} = \begin{pmatrix} \theta & \theta \\ \theta & -\epsilon \end{pmatrix}, \hat{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \theta \\ \theta & \theta \end{pmatrix}, \hat{x} = \begin{pmatrix} \theta & 1 \\ \theta & \theta \end{pmatrix}\}; \quad (\omega \epsilon \beta / sl_2)$$

$$\{\hat{a} \cdot \hat{x} - \hat{x} \cdot \hat{a} = \hat{x}, \hat{a} \cdot \hat{y} - \hat{y} \cdot \hat{a} = -\hat{y}, \hat{b} \cdot \hat{y} - \hat{y} \cdot \hat{b} = -\epsilon \hat{y}, \hat{b} \cdot \hat{x} - \hat{x} \cdot \hat{b} = \epsilon \hat{x}, \hat{x} \cdot \hat{y} - \hat{y} \cdot \hat{x} = \hat{b} + \epsilon \hat{a}\}$$

{True, True, True, True, True}

**Simplify@With** [ { $\mathbb{E}$  = MatrixExp },

$$\begin{aligned} &\mathbb{E}[\hat{y} \eta_i] \cdot \mathbb{E}[\hat{b} \beta_i] \cdot \mathbb{E}[\hat{a} \alpha_i] \cdot \mathbb{E}[\hat{x} \xi_i] \cdot \mathbb{E}[\hat{y} \eta_j] \cdot \mathbb{E}[\hat{b} \beta_j] \cdot \\ &\mathbb{E}[\hat{a} \alpha_j] \cdot \mathbb{E}[\hat{x} \xi_j] = \mathbb{E}[\hat{y} \partial_{y_k} \Lambda] \cdot \mathbb{E}[\hat{b} \partial_{b_k} \Lambda] \cdot \mathbb{E}[\hat{a} \partial_{a_k} \Lambda] \cdot \\ &\mathbb{E}[\hat{x} \partial_{x_k} \Lambda] \end{aligned}$$

True

**Series** [  $\Lambda$ , {  $\epsilon$ ,  $\theta$ ,  $2$  } ]

$$\begin{aligned} &(a_k (\alpha_i + \alpha_j) + y_k (\eta_i + e^{-\alpha_i} \eta_j) + \\ &b_k (\beta_i + \beta_j + \eta_j \xi_i) + x_k (e^{-\alpha_j} \xi_i + \xi_j)) + \\ &\left( a_k \eta_j \xi_i - \frac{1}{2} b_k \eta_j^2 \xi_i^2 - e^{-\alpha_i} y_k \eta_j (\beta_i + \eta_j \xi_i) - \right. \\ &\quad \left. e^{-\alpha_j} x_k \xi_i (\beta_j + \eta_j \xi_i) \right) \epsilon + \\ &\left( -\frac{1}{2} a_k \eta_j^2 \xi_i^2 + \frac{1}{3} b_k \eta_j^3 \xi_i^3 + \frac{1}{2} e^{-\alpha_i} y_k \eta_j (\beta_i^2 + 2 \beta_i \eta_j \xi_i + 2 \eta_j^2 \xi_i^2) + \right. \\ &\quad \left. \frac{1}{2} e^{-\alpha_j} x_k \xi_i (\beta_j^2 + 2 \beta_j \eta_j \xi_i + 2 \eta_j^2 \xi_i^2) \right) \epsilon^2 + O[\epsilon]^3 \end{aligned}$$

**Note 1.** If the lower half of the alphabet  $(a, b, \alpha, \beta)$  is regarded as constants, then  $\Lambda = C + Q + \sum_{k \geq 1} \epsilon^k P^{(k)}$  is a docile perturbed Gaussian relative to the upper half of the alphabet  $(x, y, \xi, \eta)$ :  $C$  is a scalar,  $Q$  is a quadratic, and  $\deg P^{(k)} \leq 2k + 2$ .

**Note 2.**  $\text{wt}(x, y, \xi, \eta; a, b, \alpha, \beta; \epsilon) = (1, 1, 1, 1; 2, 0, 0, 2; -2)$ .

**Quadratic Casimirs.** If  $t \in \mathfrak{g} \otimes \mathfrak{g}$  is the quadratic Casimir of a semi-simple Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$ , then  $e^t$ , regarded by PBW as an element of  $S^{\otimes 2} = \text{Hom}(S(\mathfrak{g})^{\otimes 0} \rightarrow S(\mathfrak{g})^{\otimes 2})$ , has a latin-latin dominant Gaussian factor. Likewise for  $R$ -matrices.

(Baby) **DoPeGDO** := The category with objects finite sets  $\dagger 1$  and  $\text{mor}(A \rightarrow B) = \{ \mathcal{L} = \omega \exp(Q + P) \} \subset \mathbb{Q}[\{\zeta_A, z_B, \epsilon\}]$ ,

where:  $\bullet \omega$  is a scalar.  $\dagger 2 \bullet Q$  is a “small”  $\epsilon$ -free quadratic in  $\zeta_A \cup z_B$ .  $\dagger 3 \bullet P$  is a “docile perturbation”:  $P = \sum_{k \geq 1} \epsilon^k P^{(k)}$ , where  $\deg P^{(k)} \leq 2k + 2$ .  $\dagger 4 \bullet$  Compositions:  $\dagger 6 \mathcal{L} // \mathcal{M} := (\mathcal{L}|_{z_i \rightarrow \partial_{z_i} \mathcal{M}})_{\zeta_i=0}$ .

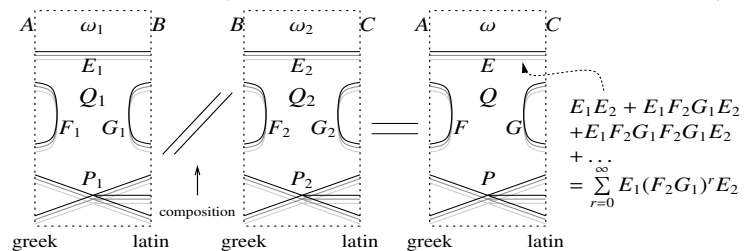


**So What?** If  $V$  is a representation, then  $V^{\otimes n}$  explodes as a function of  $n$ , while in **DoPeGDO** up to a fixed power of  $\epsilon$ , the ranks of  $\text{mor}(A \rightarrow B)$  grow polynomially as a function of  $|A|$  and  $|B|$ .

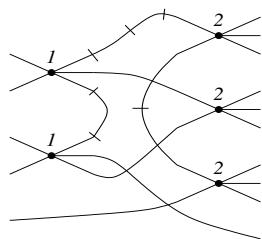
**Compositions.** In  $\text{mor}(A \rightarrow B)$ ,

$$Q = \sum_{i \in A, j \in B} E_{ij} \zeta_i \zeta_j + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i, j \in A} F_{ij} \zeta_i \zeta_j + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i, j \in B} G_{ij} \zeta_i \zeta_j,$$

and so (remember,  $e^x = 1 + x + xx/2 + xxx/6 + \dots$ )



where  $\bullet E = E_1(I - F_2G_1)^{-1}E_2$ .  
 $\bullet F = F_1 + E_1F_2(I - G_1F_2)^{-1}E_1^T$ .  
 $\bullet G = G_2 + E_2^T G_1(I - F_2G_1)^{-1}E_2$ .  
 $\bullet \omega = \omega_1\omega_2 \det(I - F_2G_1)^{-1}$ .  
 $\bullet P$  is computed as the solution of a messy PDE or using “connected Feynman diagrams” (yet we’re still in pure algebra!). Docility is preserved.

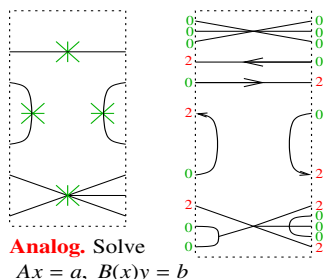


**DoPeGDO Footnotes.** Each variable has a “weight”  $\in \{0, 1, 2\}$ , and always  $\text{wt } z_i + \text{wt } \zeta_i = 2$ .

- †1. Really, “weight-graded finite sets”  $A = A_0 \sqcup A_1 \sqcup A_2$ .
- †2. Really, a power series in the weight-0 variables<sup>†5</sup>.
- †3. The weight of  $Q$  must be 2, so it decomposes as  $Q = Q_{20} + Q_{11}$ . The coefficients of  $Q_{20}$  are rational numbers while the coefficients of  $Q_{11}$  may be weight-0 power series<sup>†5</sup>.
- †4. Setting  $\text{wt } \epsilon = -2$ , the weight of  $P$  is  $\leq 2$  (so the powers of the weight-0 variables are not constrained)<sup>†5</sup>.
- †5. In the knot-theoretic case, all weight-0 power series are rational functions of bounded degree in the exponentials of the weight-0 variables.
- †6. There’s also an obvious product  $\text{mor}(A_1 \rightarrow B_1) \times \text{mor}(A_2 \rightarrow B_2) \rightarrow \text{mor}(A_1 \sqcup A_2 \rightarrow B_1 \sqcup B_2)$ .

**Full DoPeGDO.** Compute compositions in two phases:

- A 1-1 phase over the ring of power series in the weight-0 variables, in which the weight-2 variables are spectators.
- A (slightly modified) 2-0 phase over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , in which the weight-1 variables are spectators.



knot diag	$n_k^+$ $(\rho_1^+)^+$	Alexander's $\omega^+$	genus / ribbon unknotting # / amphi?	knot diag	$n_k^+$ $(\rho_1^+)^+$	Alexander's $\omega^+$	genus / ribbon unknotting # / amphi?	knot diag	$n_k^+$ $(\rho_1^+)^+$	Alexander's $\omega^+$	genus / ribbon unknotting # / amphi?
	$0_1^+$ 0	1	0 / ✓ 0 / ✓		$3_1^+$ $T$	$T-1$	1 / ✗ 1 / ✗		$4_1^+$ 0	$3-T$	1 / ✗ 1 / ✓
	$5_1^+$ $2T^3+3T$	$T^2-T+1$	2 / ✗ 2 / ✗		$5_2^+$ $5T-4$	$2T-3$	1 / ✗ 1 / ✗		$6_1^+$ $T-4$	$5-2T$	1 / ✓ 1 / ✗
	$6_2^+$ $T^3-4T^2+4T-4$	$-T^2+3T-3$	2 / ✗ 1 / ✗		$6_3^+$ 0	$T^2-3T+5$	2 / ✗ 1 / ✓		$7_1^+$ $3T^5+5T^3+6T$	$T^3-T^2+T-1$	3 / ✗ 3 / ✗
	$57T^7-207T^6+557T^5-1207T^4+2177T^3-3387T^2+4507T-510$	$3T^8-217T^7+497T^6+157T^5-4337T^4+15437T^3-34317T^2+54827T-6410$			$47T^8-337T^7+1217T^6-2037T^5-1117T^4+14997T^3-42107T^2+71867T-8510$				$147T^4-167T^3-2937T^2+10987T-1598$	$7777T^3-22387T^2+26047T-2772$	

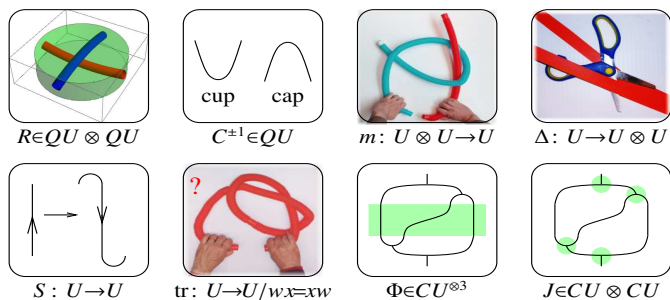
**Questions.** • Are there QFT precedents for “two-step Gaussian integration”?

• In QFT, one saves even more by considering “one-particle-irreducible” diagrams and “effective actions”. Does this mean anything here?

• Understanding  $\text{Hom}(\mathbb{Q}[z_A] \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}[z_B])$  seems like a good cause. Can you find other applications for the technology here?

$$QU = \mathcal{U}_h(sl_{2+}^\epsilon) = A(y, b, a, x) [\hbar] \text{ with } [a, x] = x, [b, y] = -\epsilon y, [a, b] = 0, [a, y] = -y, [b, x] = \epsilon x, \text{ and } xy - qyx = (1-AB)/\hbar, \text{ where } q = e^{\hbar\epsilon}, A = e^{-\hbar\epsilon a}, \text{ and } B = e^{-\hbar\epsilon b}. \text{ Also } \Delta(y, b, a, x) = (y_1 + B_1y_2, b_1 + b_2, a_1 + a_2, x_1 + A_1x_2), S(y, b, a, x) = (-B^{-1}y, -b, -a, -A^{-1}x), \text{ and } R = \sum \hbar^{j+k} y^j b^k \otimes a^j x^k / j! k! q^j.$$

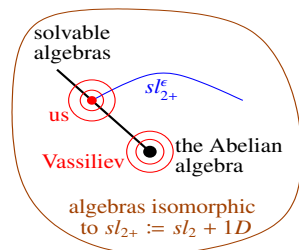
**Theorem.** Everything of value regrading  $U = CU$  and/or its quantization  $U = QU$  is **DoPeGDO**:



also Cartan’s  $\theta$ , the Dequantizer, and more, and all of their compositions.

**Solvable Approximation.** In  $sl_n$ , half is enough! Indeed  $sl_n \oplus \mathfrak{a}_{n-1} = \mathcal{D}(\nabla, b, \delta)$ . Now define  $sl_{n+}^\epsilon := \mathcal{D}(\nabla, b, \epsilon\delta)$ . Schematically, this is  $[\nabla, \nabla] = \nabla, [\Delta, \Delta] = \epsilon\Delta$ , and  $[\nabla, \Delta] = \Delta + \epsilon\nabla$ . The same process works for all semi-simple Lie algebras, and at  $\epsilon^{k+1} = 0$  always yields a solvable Lie algebra.

**4D Metrized Lie Algebras**



$$b(\nabla) = b: \nabla \otimes \nabla \rightarrow \nabla, b(\Delta) \rightsquigarrow \delta: \nabla \rightarrow \nabla \otimes \nabla$$

**Conclusion.** There are lots of poly-time-computable well-behaved near-Alexander knot invariants: • They extend to tangles with appropriate multiplicative behaviour. • They have cabling and strand reversal formulas.

$\omega\epsilon\beta/\text{akt}$   
The invariant for  $sl_{2+}^\epsilon / (\epsilon^2 = 0)$  (prior art:  $\omega\epsilon\beta/\text{Ov}$ ) attains 2,883 distinct values on the 2,978 prime knots with  $\leq 12$  crossings. HOMFLY-PT and Khovanov homology together attain only 2,786 distinct values.



### Algebraic Knot Theory

**Abstract.** This will be a very “light” talk: I will explain why about 13 years ago, in order to have a say on some problems in knot theory, I’ve set out to find tangle invariants with some nice compositional properties. In other talks (ωεβ/talks) I have explained / will explain how such invariants were found - though they are yet to be explored and utilized.

#### (v-)Tangles.

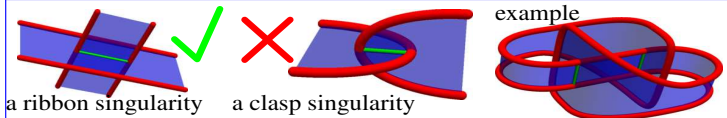
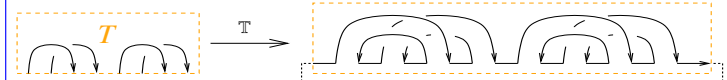
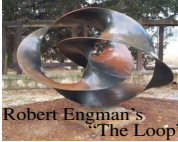
Diagram showing tangle composition and strand doubling/reversal. Includes the equation:  $m_x^{ab} // m_y^{bc} = m_x^{bc} // m_y^{ax}$  (meta-associativity).

Strand doubling:  $a \xrightarrow{\Delta_{bc}^a} b \xrightarrow{c} S_a \xrightarrow{a}$

Strand reversal:  $a \xrightarrow{c} S_a \xrightarrow{a}$

**Genus.** Every knot is the boundary of an orientable “Seifert Surface” (ωεβ/SS), and the least of their genera is the “genus” of the knot.

**Claim.** The knots of genus  $\leq 2$  are precisely the images of 4-component tangles via



**A Bit about Ribbon Knots.** A “ribbon knot” is a knot that can be presented as the boundary of a disk that has “ribbon singularities”, but no “clasp singularities”. A “slice knot” is a knot in  $S^3 = \partial B^4$  which is the boundary of a non-singular disk in  $B^4$ . Every ribbon knot is clearly slice, yet,

**Conjecture.** Some slice knots are not ribbon.

**Fox-Milnor.** The Alexander polynomial of a ribbon knot is always of the form  $A(t) = f(t)f(1/t)$ . (also for slice)

**Theorem.**  $K$  is ribbon iff it is  $\kappa T$  for a tangle  $T$  for which  $\tau T$  is the untangle  $U$ .

Diagram showing the relationship between tangle T, untangle U, and knot K. Includes the equation:  $U \in \mathcal{T}_n \xrightarrow{\tau} \mathcal{A}_n \xrightarrow{\kappa} \mathcal{R} \subseteq \mathcal{A}_1$ .

Text: “Faster is better, leaner is meaner!”

**The Gold Standard** is set by the “Γ-calculus” Alexander formulas [BNS, BN]. An  $S$ -component tangle  $T$  has  $\Gamma(T) \in R_S \times M_{S \times S}(R_S) = \left\{ \frac{\omega}{S} \middle| \frac{S}{A} \right\}$  with  $R_S := \mathbb{Z}\langle T_a : a \in S \rangle$ :

$$\left( a \begin{smallmatrix} \nearrow & \\ \nearrow & \\ \nearrow & \end{smallmatrix} b, b \begin{smallmatrix} \searrow & \\ \searrow & \\ \searrow & \end{smallmatrix} a \right) \rightarrow \frac{1}{a} \begin{vmatrix} a & b \\ 1 & 1 - T_a^{-1} \\ b & 0 \\ 0 & T_a^{\pm 1} \end{vmatrix} \quad T_1 \sqcup T_2 \rightarrow \begin{vmatrix} \omega_1 \omega_2 & S_1 & S_2 \\ S_1 & A_1 & 0 \\ S_2 & 0 & A_2 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$\frac{\omega}{a} \begin{vmatrix} a & b & S \\ \alpha & \beta & \theta \\ b & \gamma & \epsilon \\ S & \phi & \Xi \end{vmatrix} \xrightarrow{m_c^{ab}} \begin{vmatrix} (1-\beta)\omega & c & S \\ c & \gamma + \frac{\alpha\delta}{1-\beta} & \epsilon + \frac{\delta\theta}{1-\beta} \\ S & \phi + \frac{\alpha\psi}{1-\beta} & \Xi + \frac{\psi\theta}{1-\beta} \end{vmatrix}$$

For long knots,  $\omega$  is Alexander, and that’s the fastest Alexander algorithm I know! Dunfield: 1000-crossing fast.

### Strand Doubling and Reversal.

$$\begin{vmatrix} \omega & a & S \\ S & \alpha & \theta \\ a & \phi & \Xi \end{vmatrix} \xrightarrow{\mu = T_a^{-1}} \begin{vmatrix} \omega & b & c & S \\ b & (\sigma_a - \alpha T_a - \nu T_c) / \mu & (T_b - 1) T_c \nu / \mu & (T_b - 1) T_c \theta / \mu \\ c & (T_c - 1) \nu / \mu & (\alpha - \sigma_a T_a - \nu T_c) / \mu & (T_c - 1) \theta / \mu \\ S & \phi & \phi & \Xi \end{vmatrix}$$

Where  $\sigma$  assigns to every  $a \in S$  a Laurent monomial  $\sigma_a$  in  $\{t_b\}_{b \in S}$  subject to  $\sigma(a \begin{smallmatrix} \nearrow & \\ \nearrow & \\ \nearrow & \end{smallmatrix} b, b \begin{smallmatrix} \searrow & \\ \searrow & \\ \searrow & \end{smallmatrix} a) = (a \rightarrow 1, b \rightarrow t_a^{\pm 1}), \sigma(T_1 \sqcup T_2) = \sigma(T_1) \sqcup \sigma(T_2)$ , and  $\sigma // m_c^{ab} = (\sigma \setminus \{a, b\}) \cup (c \rightarrow \sigma_a \sigma_b)_{t_a, t_b \rightarrow t_c}$ .

**Vo’s Thesis [Vo].** A proof of the Fox-Milnor theorem for ribbon knots using this technology (and more).

**Implementation key idea:**  $(\omega, A = (\alpha_{ab})) \leftrightarrow (\omega, \lambda = \sum \alpha_{ab} t_a t_b)$

Code snippets: 

```
F := F[ω, λ]; F[ω2, λ2] := F[ω1 * ω2, λ1 * λ2]; ...
```

**Meta-Associativity**  $\xi = \Gamma[\omega, \{t_1, t_2, t_3, t_S\}]$

**Runs.**  $\xi = \Gamma[\omega, \{t_1, t_2, t_3, t_S\}] \cdot \{\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_3, \Xi\}$

$(\xi // m_{1 \rightarrow 2} // m_{1 \rightarrow 3}) = (\xi // m_{2 \rightarrow 3} // m_{1 \rightarrow 2})$

Diagram showing matrix multiplication and simplification steps.

$\mathbb{Z} = \mathbb{R}m_{12,1} \mathbb{R}m_{27} \mathbb{R}m_{63} \mathbb{R}m_{4,11} \mathbb{R}p_{16,5} \mathbb{R}p_{6,13} \mathbb{R}p_{14,9} \mathbb{R}p_{10,15}$

Diagram showing a complex knot structure with crossings labeled 1 through 10.

**Fact.**  $\Gamma$  is better viewed as an invariant of a certain class of 2D knotted objects in  $\mathbb{R}^4$  [BND, BN].

**Fact.**  $\Gamma$  is the “0-loop” part of an invariant that generalizes to “n-loops” (1D tangles only, see further talks and future publications with van der Veen).

**Speculation.** Stepping stones to categorification?



M. Polyak & T. Ohtsuki @ Heian Shrine, Kyoto

Ask me about geography vs. identity!

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[BN] D. Bar-Natan, *Balloons and Hoops and their Universal Finite Type Invariant, BF Theory, and an Ultimate Alexander Invariant*, ωεβ/KBH, arXiv:1308.1721.

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[BNS] D. Bar-Natan and S. Selmani, *Meta-Monoids, Meta-Bicrossed Products, and the Alexander Polynomial*, J. of Knot Theory and its Ramifications **22-10** (2013), arXiv:1302.5689.

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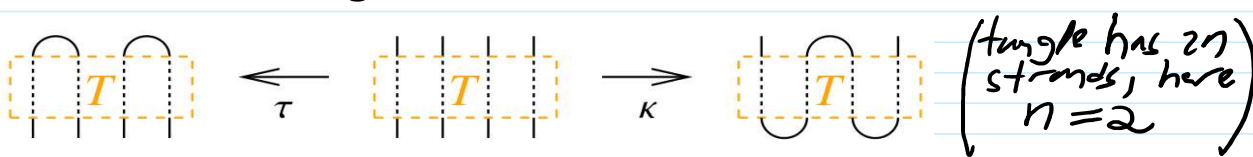
“God created the knots, all else in topology is the work of mortals.”

Leopold Kronecker (modified)

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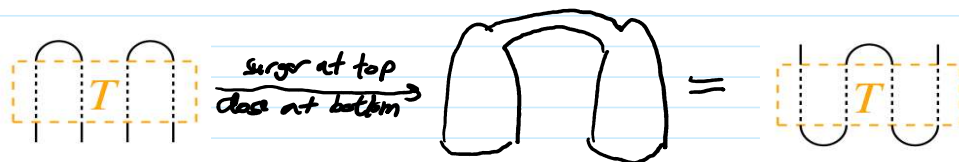


# Proof of the Tangle Characterization of Ribbon Knots



**Theorem.** A knot  $K$  is ribbon iff there exists a tangle  $T$  whose  $\tau$  closure is the untangle and whose  $\kappa$  closure is  $K$ .

**Proof.** The backward  $\Leftarrow$  implication is easy:

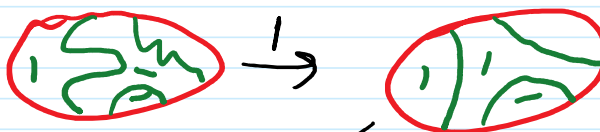


For the forward implication, follow the following 5 steps:



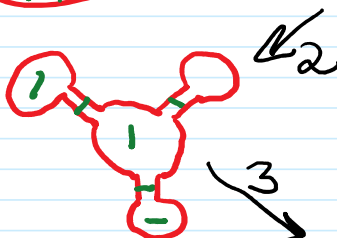
Step 1: In-situ cosmetics.

At end:  $D$  is a tree of chord-and-arc polygons.



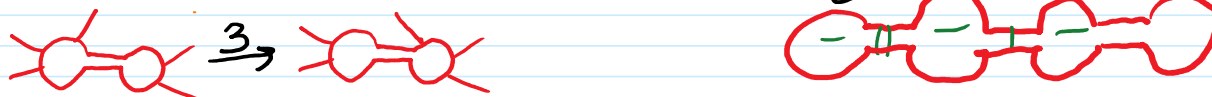
Step 2: Near-situ cosmetics.

At end:  $D$  is tree-band-sum of  $n$  unknotted disks.



Step 3: Slides.

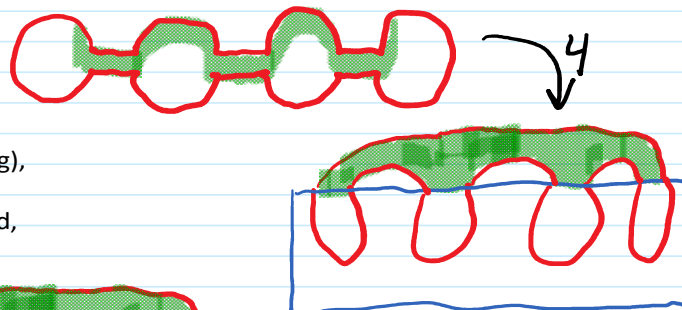
At end:  $D$  is a linear-band-sum of  $n$  unknotted disks.



Step 4: Exposure!

The green domain is contractible - so it can be shrank, moved at will (with the blue membrane following along), and expanded back again.

At end:  $D$  has  $(n-1)$  exposed bridges which when turned, make  $D$  a union of  $n$  unknotted disks.



Step 5: Pulling bottom handles avoiding the obstacles.

At end: Theorem is proven.



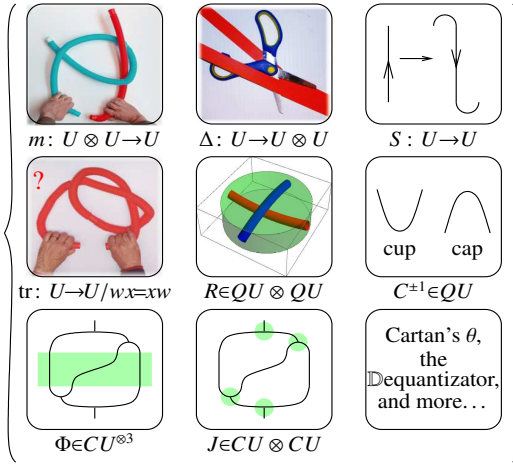


# Everything around $sl_{2+}^\epsilon$ is DoPeGDO. So what?

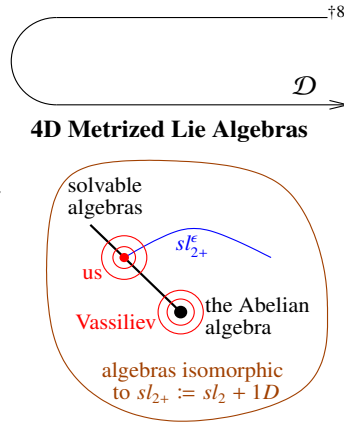
**Abstract.** I'll explain what "everything around" means: classical and quantum  $m, \Delta, S, tr, R, C$ , and  $\theta$ , as well as  $P, \Phi, J, \mathbb{D}$ , and more, and all of their compositions. What **DoPeGDO** means: the category of **Docile Perturbed Gaussian Differential Operators**. And what  $sl_{2+}^\epsilon$  means: a solvable approximation of the simple Lie algebra  $sl_2$ .

Knot theorists should rejoice because all this leads to very powerful and well-behaved poly-time-computable knot invariants. Quantum algebraists should rejoice because it's a realistic playground for testing complicated equations and theories.

**Conventions.** 1. For a set  $A$ , let  $z_A := \{z_i\}_{i \in A}$  and let  $\zeta_A := \{\zeta_i^* = \zeta_i\}_{i \in A}$ .<sup>†1</sup> 2. Everything converges!



## Less Abstract



**DoPeGDO** := The category with objects finite sets<sup>†2</sup> and  $\text{mor}(A \rightarrow B)$ :

$$\{\mathcal{F} = \omega \exp(Q + P)\} \subset \mathbb{Q}[\zeta_A, z_B, \epsilon]$$

Where: •  $\omega$  is a scalar.<sup>†3</sup> •  $Q$  is a "small"  $\epsilon$ -free quadratic in  $\zeta_A \cup z_B$ .<sup>†4</sup> •  $P$  is a "docile perturbation":  $P = \sum_{k \geq 1} \epsilon^k P^{(k)}$ , where  $\text{deg } P^{(k)} \leq 2k + 2$ .<sup>†5</sup> • Compositions:<sup>†6</sup>

$$\mathcal{F} // \mathcal{G} = \mathcal{G} \circ \mathcal{F} := (\mathcal{G}|_{\zeta_i \rightarrow \partial_{\zeta_i} \mathcal{F}})_{z_i=0} = (\mathcal{F}|_{z_i \rightarrow \partial_{\zeta_i} \mathcal{G}})_{\zeta_i=0}$$

**Cool!**  $(V^*)^{\otimes \Sigma} \otimes V^{\otimes \Sigma}$  explodes; the ranks of quadratics and bounded-degree polynomials grow slowly!<sup>†7</sup> **Representation theory is over-rated!**

**Cool!** How often do you see a computational toolbox so successful?

**Our Algebras.** Let  $sl_{2+}^\epsilon := L\langle y, b, a, x \rangle$  subject to  $[a, x] = x$ ,  $[b, y] = -\epsilon y$ ,  $[a, b] = 0$ ,  $[a, y] = -y$ ,  $[b, x] = \epsilon x$ , and  $[x, y] = \epsilon a + b$ . So  $t := \epsilon a - b$  is central and if  $\exists \epsilon^{-1}$ ,  $sl_{2+}^\epsilon / \langle t \rangle \cong sl_2$ .<sup>ωεβ/oa</sup>  $U$  is either  $CU = \mathcal{U}(sl_{2+}^\epsilon)[[\hbar]]$  or  $QU = \mathcal{U}_\hbar(sl_{2+}^\epsilon) = A\langle y, b, a, x \rangle[[\hbar]]$  with  $[a, x] = x$ ,  $[b, y] = -\epsilon y$ ,  $[a, b] = 0$ ,  $[a, y] = -y$ ,  $[b, x] = \epsilon x$ , and  $xy - qyx = (1 - AB)/\hbar$ , where  $q = e^{\hbar \epsilon}$ ,  $A = e^{-\hbar \epsilon a}$ , and  $B = e^{-\hbar b}$ . Set also  $T = A^{-1}B = e^{\hbar t}$ .

**The Quantum Leap.** Also decree that in  $QU$ ,

$$\Delta(y, b, a, x) = (y_1 + B_1 y_2, b_1 + b_2, a_1 + a_2, x_1 + A_1 x_2),$$
$$S(y, b, a, x) = (-B^{-1} y, -b, -a, -A^{-1} x),$$

and  $R = \sum \hbar^{j+k} y^k b^j \otimes a^j x^k / j! [k]_q!$ .

**Mid-Talk Debts.** • What is this good for in quantum algebra?

- In knot theory?
- How does the "inclusion"  $\mathcal{D}: \text{Hom}(U^{\otimes \Sigma} \rightarrow U^{\otimes S}) \rightsquigarrow$  **DoPeGDO** work?
- Proofs that everything around  $sl_{2+}^\epsilon$  really is **DoPeGDO**.
- Relations with prior art.
- The rest of the "compositions" story.

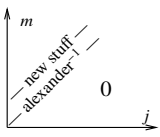
**Theorem** ([BG], conjectured [MM], elucidated [Ro1]). Let  $J_d(K)$  be the coloured Jones polynomial of  $K$ , in the  $d$ -dimensional representation of  $sl_2$ . Writing

$$\left. \frac{(q^{1/2} - q^{-1/2}) J_d(K)}{q^{d/2} - q^{-d/2}} \right|_{q=e^\hbar} = \sum_{j,m \geq 0} a_{jm}(K) d^j \hbar^m,$$

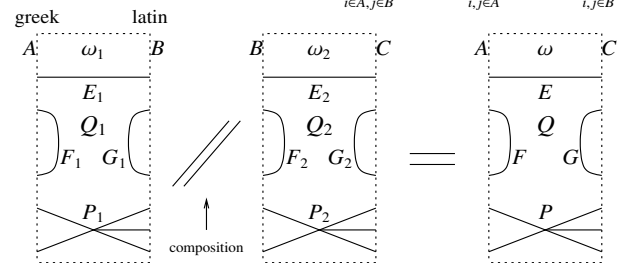
"below diagonal" coefficients vanish,  $a_{jm}(K) = 0$  if  $j > m$ , and "on diagonal" coefficients give the inverse of the Alexander polynomial:  $(\sum_{m=0}^\infty a_{mm}(K) \hbar^m) \cdot \omega(K)(e^\hbar) = 1$ .

"Above diagonal" we have **Rozansky's Theorem** [Ro3, (1.2)]:

$$J_d(K)(q) = \frac{q^d - q^{-d}}{(q - q^{-1}) \omega(K)(q^d)} \left( 1 + \sum_{k=1}^\infty \frac{(q-1)^k \rho_k(K)(q^d)}{\omega^{2k}(K)(q^d)} \right).$$



**Compositions (1).** In  $\text{mor}(A \rightarrow B)$ ,  $Q = \sum_{i \in A, j \in B} E_{ij} \zeta_i z_j + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i, j \in A} F_{ij} \zeta_i \zeta_j + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i, j \in B} G_{ij} z_i z_j$



Where •  $E = E_1(I - F_2 G_1)^{-1} E_2$ .  
•  $F = F_1 + E_1 F_2 (I - G_1 F_2)^{-1} E_1^T$ .  
•  $G = G_2 + E_2^T G_1 (I - F_2 G_1)^{-1} E_2$ .  
•  $\omega = \omega_1 \omega_2 \det(I - F_2 G_1)^{-1}$ .  
•  $P$  is computed using "connected Feynman diagrams" or as the solution of a messy PDE (yet we're still in algebra!).

One abstraction level up from tangles! (tangles) → [E] with compositions:



**DoPeGDO Footnotes.** †1. Each variable has a "weight"  $\in \{0, 1, 2\}$ , and always  $\text{wt } z_i + \text{wt } \zeta_i = 2$ .

†2. Really, "weight-graded finite sets"  $A = A_0 \sqcup A_1 \sqcup A_2$ .

†3. Really, a power series in the weight-0 variables<sup>†9</sup>.

†4. The weight of  $Q$  must be 2, so it decomposes as  $Q = Q_{20} + Q_{11}$ . The coefficients of  $Q_{20}$  are rational numbers while the coefficients of  $Q_{11}$  may be weight-0 power series<sup>†9</sup>.

†5. Setting  $\text{wt } \epsilon = -2$ , the weight of  $P$  is  $\leq 2$  (so the powers of the weight-0 variables are not constrained<sup>†9</sup>).

†6. There's also an obvious product

$$\text{mor}(A_1 \rightarrow B_1) \times \text{mor}(A_2 \rightarrow B_2) \rightarrow \text{mor}(A_1 \sqcup A_2 \rightarrow B_1 \sqcup B_2).$$

†7. That is, if the weight-0 variables are ignored. Otherwise more care is needed yet the conclusion remains.

†8.  $\text{Hom}(U^{\otimes \Sigma} \rightarrow U^{\otimes S}) \rightsquigarrow \text{mor}(\{\eta_i, \beta_i, \tau_i, \alpha_i, \xi_i\}_{i \in \Sigma} \rightarrow \{y_i, b_i, t_i, a_i, x_i\}_{i \in S})$ , where  $\text{wt}(\eta_i, \xi_i, y_i, x_i) = 1$  and  $\text{wt}(\beta_i, \tau_i, \alpha_i; b_i, t_i, a_i) = (2, 2, 0; 0, 0, 2)$ .

†9. For tangle invariants the wt-0 power series are always rational functions in the exponentials of the wt-0 variables (for knots: just one variable), with degrees bounded linearly by the crossing number.

$\mathcal{D}: \text{Hom}(U^{\otimes \Sigma} \rightarrow U^{\otimes S}) \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}[\eta_\Sigma, \beta_\Sigma, \alpha_\Sigma, \xi_\Sigma, \gamma_S, b_S, a_S, x_S]$ . The PBW theorem for  $CU$  (always in the  $ybax$  order), or its quantum analog for  $QU$ , say that if  $U = CU$  or  $QU$  then  $U^{\otimes S}$  is isomorphic as a vector space to  $\mathbb{Q}[y_i, b_i, a_i, x_i]_{i \in S}[[\hbar]]$ ; so it is enough to understand  $\text{Hom}(\mathbb{Q}[z_A] \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}[z_B])$  for finite sets  $A$  and  $B$ .

**Claim.**  $F \in \text{Hom}(\mathbb{Q}[z_A] \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}[z_B]) \xrightarrow{\cong} \mathbb{Q}[z_B][[\zeta_A]] \ni \mathcal{F}$  via

$$\mathcal{D}(F) := \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}^A} \frac{\zeta_A^n}{n!} F(z_A^n) = F\left(\bigoplus_{a \in A} \zeta_a z_a\right) = \mathcal{F},$$

$$\mathcal{D}^{-1}(\mathcal{F})(p) = \left(p|_{z_a \rightarrow \partial_{z_a} \mathcal{F}}\right)_{\zeta_a=0} \quad \text{for } p \in \mathbb{Q}[z_A].$$

**Claim.** Assuming convergence, if  $F \in \text{Hom}(\mathbb{Q}[z_A] \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}[z_B])$ ,  $G \in \text{Hom}(\mathbb{Q}[z_B] \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}[z_C])$ ,  $\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{D}(F)$ , and  $\mathcal{G} = \mathcal{D}(G)$ , then

$$\mathcal{D}(F \circ G) = \left(\mathcal{F}|_{z_i \rightarrow \partial_{z_i} \mathcal{G}}\right)_{\zeta_i=0}.$$

And so the title of the talk finally makes sense!

**Example.**  $\mathcal{D}(id: U \rightarrow U) = e^{\eta y + \beta b + \alpha a + \xi x}$ .

**Example.** Let  $c\Delta_{jk}^i: CU^{\otimes(i)} \rightarrow CU^{\otimes(j,k)}$  be the standard coproduct, given by  $c\Delta_{jk}^i(y_i, b_i, a_i, x_i) = (y_j + y_k, b_j + b_k, a_j + a_k, x_j + x_k)$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{D}(c\Delta_{jk}^i) &= c\Delta_{jk}^i(e^{\eta_i y_i + \beta_i b_i + \alpha_i a_i + \xi_i x_i}) \\ &= e^{\eta_i(y_j + y_k) + \beta_i(b_j + b_k) + \alpha_i(a_j + a_k) + \xi_i(x_j + x_k)}. \end{aligned}$$

**Example.** The standard commutative product  $m_k^{ij}$  of polynomials is given by  $z_i, z_j \rightarrow z_k$ . Hence  $\mathcal{D}(m_k^{ij}) =$

$$m_k^{ij}(e^{\zeta_i z_i + \zeta_j z_j}) = e^{(\zeta_i + \zeta_j) z_k} \quad \begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{Q}[z]_i \otimes \mathbb{Q}[z]_j & \xrightarrow{m_k^{ij}} & \mathbb{Q}[z]_k \\ \parallel & & \parallel \\ \mathbb{Q}[z_i, z_j] & \xrightarrow{m_k^{ij}} & \mathbb{Q}[z_k] \end{array}$$

**A real DoPeGDO Example.** Let  $cm_k^{ij}: CU_i \otimes CU_j \rightarrow CU_k$  be ‘‘classical multiplication’’ for  $sl_{2+}^\epsilon$ , and let  $\mathbb{O}_i: \mathbb{Q}[y_i, b_i, a_i, x_i] \rightarrow CU_i$  be the PBW ordering map.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} CU_i \otimes CU_j & \xrightarrow{cm_k^{ij}} & CU_k \\ \uparrow \mathbb{O}_{i,j} & & \uparrow \mathbb{O}_k \\ \mathbb{Q}[y_i, b_i, a_i, x_i, y_j, b_j, a_j, x_j] & & \mathbb{Q}[y_k, b_k, a_k, x_k] \end{array}$$

**Claim.** Let (all brawn and no brains)

$$\begin{aligned} \Lambda &= \left(\eta_i + \frac{e^{-\alpha_i - \epsilon \beta_i} \eta_j}{1 + \epsilon \eta_j \xi_i}\right) y_k + \left(\beta_i + \beta_j + \frac{\log(1 + \epsilon \eta_j \xi_i)}{\epsilon}\right) b_k + \\ &\quad \left(\alpha_i + \alpha_j + \log(1 + \epsilon \eta_j \xi_i)\right) a_k + \left(\frac{e^{-\alpha_j - \epsilon \beta_j} \xi_i}{1 + \epsilon \eta_j \xi_i} + \xi_j\right) x_k \end{aligned}$$

Then  $e^{\eta_i y_i + \beta_i b_i + \alpha_i a_i + \xi_i x_i + \eta_j y_j + \beta_j b_j + \alpha_j a_j + \xi_j x_j} \circ \mathbb{O}_{i,j} \circ cm_k^{ij} = e^\Lambda \circ \mathbb{O}_k$ , and hence  $\mathcal{D}(cm_k^{ij}) = e^\Lambda$  and  $cm_k^{ij}$  is DoPeGDO.

**Proof.** We compute in a faithful 2D representation  $z \mapsto \hat{z}$  of  $CU$ : (wεβ/cm)

**HL**[ $\mathcal{E}_-$ ] := `Style[ $\mathcal{E}$ , Background → If[TrueQ@ $\mathcal{E}$ , #, #]];`

$$\{\hat{y} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ \epsilon & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \hat{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -\epsilon \end{pmatrix}, \hat{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \hat{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}\};$$

$$\text{HL} / @ \{\hat{a} \cdot \hat{x} - \hat{x} \cdot \hat{a} = \hat{x}, \hat{a} \cdot \hat{y} - \hat{y} \cdot \hat{a} = -\hat{y}, \hat{b} \cdot \hat{y} - \hat{y} \cdot \hat{b} = -\epsilon \hat{y},$$

$$\hat{b} \cdot \hat{x} - \hat{x} \cdot \hat{b} = \epsilon \hat{x}, \hat{x} \cdot \hat{y} - \hat{y} \cdot \hat{x} = \hat{b} + \epsilon \hat{a}\}$$

{True, True, True, True, True}

**HL**@Simplify@With[{ $\mathbb{E}$  = MatrixExp},

$$\begin{aligned} &\mathbb{E}[\eta_i \hat{y}] \cdot \mathbb{E}[\beta_i \hat{b}] \cdot \mathbb{E}[\alpha_i \hat{a}] \cdot \mathbb{E}[\xi_i \hat{x}] \cdot \mathbb{E}[\eta_j \hat{y}] \cdot \mathbb{E}[\beta_j \hat{b}] \cdot \\ &\mathbb{E}[\alpha_j \hat{a}] \cdot \mathbb{E}[\xi_j \hat{x}] = \mathbb{E}[\hat{y} \partial_{y_k} \Lambda] \cdot \mathbb{E}[\hat{b} \partial_{b_k} \Lambda] \cdot \mathbb{E}[\hat{a} \partial_{a_k} \Lambda] \cdot \\ &\mathbb{E}[\hat{x} \partial_{x_k} \Lambda] \end{aligned}$$

**True**

**Series** [ $\Lambda, \{\epsilon, 0, 1\}$ ]

$$\begin{aligned} &(a_k (\alpha_i + \alpha_j) + y_k (\eta_i + e^{-\alpha_i} \eta_j) + \\ &b_k (\beta_i + \beta_j + \eta_j \xi_i) + x_k (e^{-\alpha_j} \xi_i + \xi_j)) + \\ &\left(a_k \eta_j \xi_i - \frac{1}{2} b_k \eta_j^2 \xi_i^2 - e^{-\alpha_i} y_k \eta_j (\beta_i + \eta_j \xi_i) - \right. \\ &\quad \left. e^{-\alpha_j} x_k \xi_i (\beta_j + \eta_j \xi_i)\right) \epsilon + o[\epsilon]^2 \end{aligned}$$

(Shame, but this technique fails for  $QU$ ).

**Claim.** In  $QU$ ,  $R$  is DoPeGDO.

**Proof.** Recall that with  $q = e^{\hbar \epsilon}$ ,

$$R = \sum \hbar^{j+k} y^k b^j \otimes a^j x^k / j! k! q! = \mathbb{O}\left(e^{\hbar b_1 a_2} e^{\hbar y_1 x_2}\right).$$

Now expand  $e^{\hbar y_1 x_2}$  in powers of  $\epsilon$  using:

**Faddeev’s Formula** (In as much as we can tell, first appeared without proof in Faddeev [Fa], rediscovered and proven in Quesne [Qu], and again with easier proof, in Zagier [Za]). With  $[n]_q := \frac{q^n - 1}{q - 1}$ , with  $[n]_q! := [1]_q [2]_q \cdots [n]_q$  and with  $e_q^x := \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{x^n}{[n]_q!}$ , we have

$$\log e_q^x = \sum_{k \geq 1} \frac{(1 - q)^k x^k}{k(1 - q^k)} = x + \frac{(1 - q)^2 x^2}{2(1 - q^2)} + \dots$$

**Proof.** We have that  $e_q^x = \frac{e^{qx} - e^x}{qx - x}$  (‘‘the  $q$ -derivative of  $e_q^x$  is itself’’), and hence  $e_q^{qx} = (1 + (1 - q)x)e_q^x$ , and

$$\log e_q^{qx} = \log(1 + (1 - q)x) + \log e_q^x.$$

Writing  $\log e_q^x = \sum_{k \geq 1} a_k x^k$  and comparing powers of  $x$ , we get  $q^k a_k = -(1 - q)^k / k + a_k$ , or  $a_k = \frac{(1 - q)^k}{k(1 - q^k)}$ .  $\square$

**Compositions (2).** Recall that with all indices  $i$  running in some set  $B$ ,

$$\mathcal{F} \circ \mathcal{G} = \left(\mathcal{F}|_{z_i \rightarrow \partial_{z_i} \mathcal{G}}\right)_{\zeta_i=0} \stackrel{(1)}{=} e^{\sum \partial_{z_i} \partial_{z_i} (\mathcal{F} \mathcal{G})} \Big|_{z_i = \zeta_i = 0}, \quad \begin{array}{l} (1) \text{ Strictly speaking,} \\ \text{true only when} \\ B \cap (A \cup C) = \emptyset. \end{array}$$

so in general we wish to understand

$$[F: \mathcal{E}]_B := e^{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j \in B} F_{ij} \partial_{z_i} \partial_{z_j} \mathcal{E}} \quad \text{and} \quad \langle F: \mathcal{E} \rangle_B := [F: \mathcal{E}]_B|_{z_B \rightarrow 0},$$

where  $\mathcal{E}$  is a docile perturbed Gaussian. The following lemma allows us to restrict to the case where  $\mathcal{E}$  has no  $B$ - $B$  quadratic part:

**Lemma 1.** With convergences left to the reader,

$$\left\langle F: \mathcal{E} e^{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j \in B} G_{ij} z_i z_j} \right\rangle_B = \det(1 - GF)^{-1/2} \left\langle F(1 - GF)^{-1}: \mathcal{E} \right\rangle_B.$$

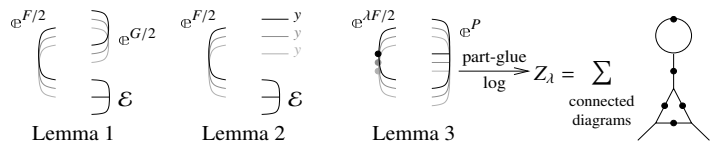
The next lemma dispatches the case where  $\mathcal{E}$  has a  $B$ -linear part:

**Lemma 2.**  $\left\langle F: \mathcal{E} e^{\sum_{i \in B} y_i z_i} \right\rangle_B = e^{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j \in B} F_{ij} y_i y_j} \left\langle F: \mathcal{E}|_{z_B \rightarrow z_B + F y_B} \right\rangle_B$ .

Finally, we deal with the docile perturbation case:

**Lemma 3.** With an extra variable  $\lambda$ ,  $Z_\lambda := \log[\lambda F: e^P]_B$  satisfies and is determined by the following PDE / IVP:

$$Z_0 = P \quad \text{and} \quad \partial_\lambda Z_\lambda = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j \in B} F_{ij} \left(\partial_{z_i} \partial_{z_j} Z_\lambda + (\partial_{z_i} Z_\lambda)(\partial_{z_j} Z_\lambda)\right).$$



**Complexity** to  $\epsilon^k$ , for an  $n$ -xing width  $w$  knot (by [LT],  $w \in O(\sqrt{n})$ ), is  $O(n^2 w^{2k+2} \log n) = O(n^{k+3} \log n)$  integer operations.

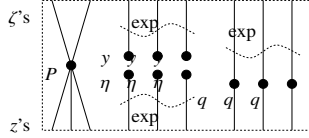
## A Partial To Do List.

- Understand tr and links.
- Implement  $\Phi, J$ . Determine the appropriate wt-0 ground ring.
- Implement the “dequantizers”.
- Understand denominators and get rid of them.
- Implement zipping at the log-level.
- Clean the program and make it efficient.
- Run it for all small knots and links, at  $k = 3, 4$ .
- Understand the centre and figure out how to read the output.
- Is the “+” really necessary in  $sl_{2+}^{\epsilon}$ ? Why?
- Extend to  $sl_3$  and beyond.
- Describe a genus bound and a Seifert formula.
- Obtain “Gauss-Gassner formulas” ( $\omega\epsilon\beta/\text{NCSU}$ ).
- Relate with the representation theory dogma, with Melvin-Morton-Rozansky and with Rozansky-Overbay.

- Understand the braid group representations that arise.
- Relate with finite-type (Vassiliev) invariants.
- Find a topological interpretation/foundation. The Garoufalidis - Rozansky “loop expansion” [GR]?
- Figure out the action of the Cartan automorphism.
- Understand “the subspace of classical knots / tangles”.
- **Disprove the ribbon-slice conjecture!**
- Figure out the action of the Weyl group.
- Use to study “Severa quantization”.
- Do everything at the “arrow diagram” level of finite-type invariants of (rotational) virtual tangles.
- Find “internal” proofs of consistency.
- What else can you do with the “solvable approximations”?
- And with the “Gaussian compositions” technology?

**Warning.** Some implementation details match earlier versions of the theory.

**The Zipping Theorem.** If  $P$  has a finite  $\zeta$ -degree and  $\tilde{q}$  is the inverse matrix of  $1 - q$ :  $(\delta_j^i - q_j^i)\tilde{q}_k^j = \delta_k^i$ , then



$$\left\langle P(z_i, \zeta^j) e^{c+\eta^i z_i + y_j \zeta^j + q_j^i z_i \zeta^j} \right\rangle = |\tilde{q}| e^{c+\eta^i \tilde{q}_i^k y_k} \left\langle P(\tilde{q}_i^k(z_k + y_k), \zeta^j + \eta^j \tilde{q}_i^j) \right\rangle.$$

## The “Speedy” Engine

$\omega\epsilon\beta/\text{engine}$

### Internal Utilities

Canonical Form:

```
CCF [E_] :=
  PPCF@ExpandDenominator@
  ExpandNumerator@PPTogether@Together [PPExp [
    Expand [E] /. {e^x_ e^y_ -> e^{x+y} /. e^x_ -> e^{CCF[x]}}];
CF [E_List] := CF /@ E;
CF [sd_SeriesData] := MapAt [CF, sd, 3];
CF [E_] := PPCF@Module [
  {vs = Cases [E, (y | b | t | a | x | eta | beta | tau | alpha | xi)_ , infinity] |
  {y, b, t, a, x, eta, beta, tau, alpha, xi}},
  Total [CoefficientRules [Expand [E], vs] /.
    (ps_ -> c_) -> CCF [c] (Times @@ vs^{ps})
  ];
CF [E_E] := CF /@ E;
CF [E_sp__ [E_s___]] := CF /@ E_sp [E_s];
```

The Kronecker  $\delta$ :

```
Kdelta /: Kdelta [i_, j_] := If [i == j, 1, 0];
```

Equality, multiplication, and degree-adjustment of perturbed Gaussians;  $\mathbb{E}[L, Q, P]$  stands for  $e^{L+Q}P$ :

```
E /: E [L1_, Q1_, P1_] == E [L2_, Q2_, P2_] :=
  CF [L1 == L2] ^ CF [Q1 == Q2] ^ CF [Normal [P1 - P2] == 0];
E /: E [L1_, Q1_, P1_] * E [L2_, Q2_, P2_] :=
  E [L1 + L2, Q1 + Q2, P1 * P2];
E [L_, Q_, P_] $r_ := E [L, Q, Series [Normal @ P, {epsilon, 0, $k}]];
```

### Zip and Bind

Variables and their duals:

```
{t*, b*, y*, a*, x*, z*} = {tau, beta, eta, alpha, xi, zeta};
{tau*, beta*, eta*, alpha*, xi*, zeta*} = {t, b, y, a, x, z};
(u_{-i}^*)^* := (u^*)_i;
```

Upper to lower and lower to Upper:

```
U21 = {B_{i-}^{p-} -> e^{-p h y b_i}, B_{p-}^{p-} -> e^{-p h y b}, T_{i-}^{p-} -> e^{p h t_i},
  T_{p-}^{p-} -> e^{p h t}, A_{i-}^{p-} -> e^{p y a_i}, A_{p-}^{p-} -> e^{p y a}};
L2U = {e^{c- b_{i-} + d_{-}} -> B_{i-}^{c/(h y)} e^d, e^{c- b + d_{-}} -> B^{-c/(h y)} e^d,
  e^{c- t_{i-} + d_{-}} -> T_{i-}^{c/h} e^d, e^{c- t + d_{-}} -> T^{c/h} e^d,
  e^{c- a_{i-} + d_{-}} -> A_{i-}^{c/y} e^d, e^{c- a + d_{-}} -> A^{c/y} e^d,
  e^{E-} -> e^{Expand@E}};
```

Derivatives in the presence of exponentiated variables:

```
D_b [f_] := D_b f - h y B D_b f; D_{b_i} [f_] := D_{b_i} f - h y B_i D_{b_i} f;
D_t [f_] := D_t f + h T D_t f; D_{t_i} [f_] := D_{t_i} f + h T_i D_{t_i} f;
D_alpha [f_] := D_alpha f + y A D_alpha f; D_{alpha_i} [f_] := D_{alpha_i} f + y A_i D_{alpha_i} f;
D_v [f_] := D_v f; D_{(v,0)} [f_] := f; D_{()} [f_] := f;
D_{(v,n_Integer)} [f_] := D_v [D_{(v,n-1)} [f]];
D_{(L_List, L_s___)} [f_] := D_{(L_s)} [D_L [f]];
```

Finite Zips:

```
collect [sd_SeriesData, zeta_] :=
  MapAt [collect [# , zeta_] &, sd, 3];
collect [E_, zeta_] := PPCollect@Collect [E, zeta];
Zip_{()} [P_] := P;
Zip_{E_s} [Ps_List] := Zip_{E_s} /@ Ps;
Zip_{(E_s, E_s___)} [P_] := PPZip [
  (collect [P // Zip_{(E_s)}, zeta_] /. f_ -> zeta^{d-} -> (D_{(zeta^*, d)} [f])) /.
  zeta^* -> 0 /. ((zeta^* /. {b -> B, t -> T, alpha -> A}) -> 1)]
```

QZip implements the “Q-level zips” on  $\mathbb{E}(L, Q, P) = e^{L+Q}P(\epsilon)$ . Such zips regard the  $L$  variables as scalars.

```

QZip $\zeta_s$ _List@E[L_, Q_, P_] :=
  PPQZip@Module[{ $\xi$ , z, zs, c, ys,  $\eta_s$ , qt, zrule,  $\xi$ rule, out},
    zs = Table[ $\xi^*$ , { $\xi$ ,  $\xi_s$ }]];
    c = CF[Q /. Alternatives@@ ( $\xi_s \cup zs$ )  $\rightarrow$  0];
    ys = CF@Table[ $\partial_{\xi}$ (Q /. Alternatives@@ zs  $\rightarrow$  0),
      { $\xi$ ,  $\xi_s$ }]];
     $\eta_s$  = CF@Table[ $\partial_z$ (Q /. Alternatives@@  $\xi_s \rightarrow$  0), {z, zs}];
    qt = CF@Inverse@Table[K $\delta_{z,\xi^*} - \partial_{z,\xi}Q$ , { $\xi$ ,  $\xi_s$ }, {z, zs}];
    zrule = Thread[zs  $\rightarrow$  CF[qt.(zs + ys)]];
     $\xi$ rule = Thread[ $\xi_s \rightarrow \xi_s + \eta_s.qt$ ];
    CF /@ E[L, c +  $\eta_s.qt.ys$ ,
      Det[qt] Zip $\zeta_s$ [P /. (zrule  $\cup$   $\xi$ rule)]];
  
```

LZip implements the “L-level zips” on  $E(L, Q, P) = Pe^{L+Q}$ . Such zips regard all of  $Pe^Q$  as a single “P”. Here the z’s are  $b$  and  $\alpha$  and the  $\xi$ ’s are  $\beta$  and  $a$ .

```

LZip $\zeta_s$ _List@E[L_, Q_, P_] :=
  PPLZip@Module[{ $\xi$ , z, zs, Zs, c, ys,  $\eta_s$ , lt, zrule,
    Zrule,  $\xi$ rule, Q1, EEQ, EQ},
    zs = Table[ $\xi^*$ , { $\xi$ ,  $\xi_s$ }]];
    Zs = zs /. {b  $\rightarrow$  B, t  $\rightarrow$  T,  $\alpha \rightarrow$  A};
    c = L /. Alternatives@@ ( $\xi_s \cup Zs$ )  $\rightarrow$  0 /.
      Alternatives@@ Zs  $\rightarrow$  1;
    ys = Table[ $\partial_{\xi}$ (L /. Alternatives@@ zs  $\rightarrow$  0), { $\xi$ ,  $\xi_s$ }]];
     $\eta_s$  = Table[ $\partial_z$ (L /. Alternatives@@  $\xi_s \rightarrow$  0), {z, zs}];
    lt = Inverse@Table[K $\delta_{z,\xi^*} - \partial_{z,\xi}L$ , { $\xi$ ,  $\xi_s$ }, {z, zs}];
    zrule = Thread[zs  $\rightarrow$  lt.(zs + ys)];
    Zrule = Join[zrule,
      zrule /.
        r_Rule  $\Rightarrow$  ((U = r[[1]] /. {b  $\rightarrow$  B, t  $\rightarrow$  T,  $\alpha \rightarrow$  A})  $\rightarrow$ 
          (U /. U21 /. r /. 12U));
     $\xi$ rule = Thread[ $\xi_s \rightarrow \xi_s + \eta_s.lt$ ];
    Q1 = Q /. (Zrule  $\cup$   $\xi$ rule);
    EEQ[ps___] :=
      EEQ[ps] =
        PPEEQ@(CF[e-Q1 DThread[{zs, {ps}}][eQ1]] /.
          {Alternatives@@ zs  $\rightarrow$  0, Alternatives@@ Zs  $\rightarrow$  1});
    CF@E[c +  $\eta_s.lt.ys$ ,
      Q1 /. {Alternatives@@ zs  $\rightarrow$  0, Alternatives@@ Zs  $\rightarrow$  1},
      Det[lt]
        (Zip $\zeta_s$ [(EQ@@ zs)(P /. (Zrule  $\cup$   $\xi$ rule))] /.
          Derivative[ps___][EQ][___]  $\Rightarrow$  EEQ[ps] /.
            _EQ  $\rightarrow$  1) ]];
  
```

```

B_{i} [L_, R_] := LR;
B_{is___} [L_E, R_E] := PP_B@Module[{n},
  Times[
    L /. Table[{v : b | B | t | T | a | x | y}_i  $\rightarrow$  vnei,
      {i, {is}}],
    R /. Table[{v :  $\beta$  |  $\tau$  |  $\alpha$  | A |  $\xi$  |  $\eta$ }_i  $\rightarrow$  vnei, {i, {is}}]
  ] // LZipJoin@Table[{ $\beta_{nei}$ ,  $\tau_{nei}$ ,  $a_{nei}$ }, {i, {is}}] //
    QZipJoin@Table[{ $\xi_{nei}$ ,  $\eta_{nei}$ }, {i, {is}}] ];
B_{is___} [L_, R_] := B_{is} [L, R];
  
```

### E morphisms with domain and range.

```

B_{is_List} [E $d_1 \rightarrow r_1$  [L1_, Q1_, P1_], E $d_2 \rightarrow r_2$  [L2_, Q2_, P2_]] :=
  E (d1  $\cup$  Complement[d2, is])  $\rightarrow$  (r2  $\cup$  Complement[r1, is]) @@
  B_{is} [E [L1, Q1, P1], E [L2, Q2, P2]];
E $d_1 \rightarrow r_1$  [L1_, Q1_, P1_] // E $d_2 \rightarrow r_2$  [L2_, Q2_, P2_] :=
  B $r_1 \cap d_2$  [E $d_1 \rightarrow r_1$  [L1, Q1, P1], E $d_2 \rightarrow r_2$  [L2, Q2, P2]];
E $d_1 \rightarrow r_1$  [L1_, Q1_, P1_]  $\equiv$  E $d_2 \rightarrow r_2$  [L2_, Q2_, P2_]  $\wedge$  :=
  (d1 == d2)  $\wedge$  (r1 == r2)  $\wedge$  (E [L1, Q1, P1]  $\equiv$  E [L2, Q2, P2]);
E $d_1 \rightarrow r_1$  [L1_, Q1_, P1_] E $d_2 \rightarrow r_2$  [L2_, Q2_, P2_]  $\wedge$  :=
  E (d1  $\cup$  d2)  $\rightarrow$  (r1  $\cup$  r2) @@ (E [L1, Q1, P1]  $\times$  E [L2, Q2, P2]);
E $dr$  [L_, Q_, P_]  $\$k$  := E $dr$  @@ E [L, Q, P]  $\$k$ ;
E_ [E___] [i_] := {E} [i];
  
```

### E[ $\wedge$ ]

```

E $dr$  [A_] :=
  CF@Module[{L,  $\Delta$ 0 = Limit[A,  $\epsilon \rightarrow$  0]},
    E $dr$  [L =  $\Delta$ 0 /. ( $\eta$  | y |  $\xi$  | x)_  $\rightarrow$  0,  $\Delta$ 0 - L, eA- $\Delta$ 0] $\$k$  /. 12U]
  
```

### Exponentials as needed.

Task. Define  $\text{Exp}_{m,j,k}[P]$  to compute  $e^{O(P)}$  to  $\epsilon^k$  in the using the  $m_{i,j \rightarrow i}$  multiplication, where  $P$  is an  $\epsilon$ -dependent near-docile element, giving the answer in E-form.

Methodology. If  $P_0 := P_{\epsilon=0}$  and  $e^{A O(P)} = O(e^{A P_0} F(\lambda))$ , then

$F(\lambda = 0) = 1$  and we have:

$$O(e^{A P_0} (P_0 F(\lambda) + \partial_\lambda F)) = O(\partial_\lambda e^{A P_0} F(\lambda)) =$$

$$\partial_\lambda O(e^{A P_0} F(\lambda)) = \partial_\lambda e^{A O(P)} = e^{A O(P)} O(P) = O(e^{A P_0} F(\lambda)) O(P)$$

This is a linear ODE for  $F$ . Setting inductively  $F_k = F_{k-1} + \epsilon^k \varphi$  we find that  $F_0 = 1$  and solve for  $\varphi$ .

(\* Bug: The first line is valid only if  $O(e^{P_0}) = e^{O(P_0)}$ .)

```

Exp $m, i, \theta$  [P_] := Module[{LQ = Normal@P /.  $\epsilon \rightarrow$  0},
  E [LQ /. (x | y)_i  $\rightarrow$  0, LQ /. (b | a | t)_i  $\rightarrow$  0, 1] ];
Exp $m, i, k$  [P_] := Block[{$k = k},
  Module[{P0,  $\lambda$ ,  $\varphi$ ,  $\varphi_s$ , F, j, rhs, eqn, pows, at0, at $\lambda$ },
    P0 = Normal@P /.  $\epsilon \rightarrow$  0;
    F = Normal@Last@Exp $m, i, k-1$  [P];
    While[
      rhs =
        m $i, j \rightarrow i$  [
          E $\{\}$   $\rightarrow$  {i} [  $\lambda$  P0 /. (x | y)_i  $\rightarrow$  0,  $\lambda$  P0 /. (b | a | t)_i  $\rightarrow$  0,
            F ] $k$  S $\sigma$   $i \rightarrow j$  @ E $\{\}$   $\rightarrow$  {i} [0, 0, P] $k$ ] // Last // Normal;
          eqn = CF [( $\partial_\lambda F$ ) + P0 F - rhs];
          eqn != 0, (*do*)
          pows = First /@ CoefficientRules[eqn, {y $_i$ , b $_i$ , a $_i$ , x $_i$ }]];
          F += Sum[eR  $\varphi_{js}$  [ $\lambda$ ] Times@@ {y $_i$ , b $_i$ , a $_i$ , x $_i$ }js,
            {js, pows}];
          rhs =
            m $i, j \rightarrow i$  [
              E $\{\}$   $\rightarrow$  {i} [  $\lambda$  P0 /. (x | y)_i  $\rightarrow$  0,  $\lambda$  P0 /. (b | a | t)_i  $\rightarrow$  0,
                F ] $k$  S $\sigma$   $i \rightarrow j$  @ E $\{\}$   $\rightarrow$  {i} [0, 0, P] $k$ ] // Last // Normal;
              eqn = CF [( $\partial_\lambda F$ ) + P0 F - rhs];
               $\varphi_s$  = Table[ $\varphi_{js}$  [ $\lambda$ ], {js, pows}];
              at0 = Table[ $\varphi_{js}$  [0] == 0, {js, pows}];
              at $\lambda$  = (# == 0) & /@
                (pows /. CoefficientRules[eqn, {y $_i$ , b $_i$ , a $_i$ , x $_i$ }]];
              F = F /. DSolve[And@@ (at0  $\cup$  at $\lambda$ ),  $\varphi_s$ ,  $\lambda$ ] [[1]]
            ];
          E $\{\}$   $\rightarrow$  {i} [P0 /. (x | y)_i  $\rightarrow$  0, P0 /. (b | a | t)_i  $\rightarrow$  0,
            F + O[ $\epsilon$ ]k+1 /.  $\lambda \rightarrow$  1] ] ];
  
```

### “Define” Code

Define[lhs = rhs, ...] defines the lhs to be rhs, except that rhs is computed only once for each value of \$k. Fancy Mathematica notation for the faint of heart. Most readers should ignore.

```

SetAttributes[Define, HoldAll];
Define[def_, defs_] := (Define[def]; Define[defs]);
Define[op_is_ = ε_] :=
Module[{SD, ii, jj, kk, isp, nis, nisp, sis},
Block[{i, j, k},
ReleaseHold[Hold[
SD[op_nisp, $k_Integer, PPBoot@Block[{i, j, k}, op_isp, $k = ε;
op_nis, $k];];
SD[op_isp, op_{is}, $k]; SD[op_sis_, op_{sis}];
] /. {SD → SetDelayed,
isp → {is} /. {i → i_, j → j_, k → k_},
nis → {is} /. {i → ii, j → jj, k → kk},
nisp → {is} /. {i → ii_, j → jj_, k → kk_}
}]]]

```

## The Objects

$\omega\epsilon\beta$ /objects

### Symmetric Algebra Objects

```

sm_{i,j} → r_k :=
IE_{i,j} → {k} [b_k (β_i + β_j) + t_k (τ_i + τ_j) + a_k (α_i + α_j) +
y_k (η_i + η_j) + x_k (ξ_i + ξ_j)];
sΔ_{i,j} → r_k :=
IE_{i,j} → {k} [β_i (b_j + b_k) + τ_i (t_j + t_k) + α_i (a_j + a_k) +
η_i (y_j + y_k) + ξ_i (x_j + x_k)];
sS_i := IE_{i} → {i} [-β_i b_i - τ_i t_i - α_i a_i - η_i y_i - ξ_i x_i];
se_i := IE_{i} → {i} [0];
sη_i := IE_{i} → {i} [0];
sσ_{i,j} := IE_{i,j} → {j} [β_i b_j + τ_i t_j + α_i a_j + η_i y_j + ξ_i x_j];
sY_{i,j} → r_k, l_m := IE_{i,j} → {k,l,m} [β_i b_k + τ_i t_k + α_i a_l + η_i y_j + ξ_i x_m];

```

### The CU Definitions

```

cλ = (η_i + (e^{-γ α_i - ε β_i} η_j) / (1 + γ ε η_j ξ_i)) y_k + (β_i + β_j + (Log[1 + γ ε η_j ξ_i] / ε)) b_k +
(α_i + α_j + (Log[1 + γ ε η_j ξ_i] / γ)) a_k + (e^{-γ α_j - ε β_j} ξ_i / (1 + γ ε η_j ξ_i) + ξ_j) x_k;
Define[cm_{i,j} → k = IE_{i,j} → {k} [cλ];
Define[cs_{i,j} = sσ_{i,j} /. τ_i → 0, ce_i = se_i, cη_i = sη_i,
cΔ_{i,j,k} = sΔ_{i,j,k},
cs_i = sS_i // sY_{i-1,2,3,4} // cm_{4,3-i} // cm_{i,2-i} // cm_{i,1-i}];

```

### Booting Up QU

```

Define[aσ_{i,j} = IE_{i,j} → {j} [a_j α_i + x_j ξ_i],
bσ_{i,j} = IE_{i,j} → {j} [b_j β_i + y_j η_i];
Define[am_{i,j} → k = IE_{i,j} → {k} [(α_i + α_j) a_k + (A_j^{-1} ξ_i + ξ_j) x_k],
bm_{i,j} → k = IE_{i,j} → {k} [(β_i + β_j) b_k + (η_i + e^{-ε β_i} η_j) y_k];
Define[R_{i,j} = IE_{i,j} → {i,j} [ħ a_j b_i + ∑_{k=1}^{$k+1} (1 - e^{γ ε ħ})^k (ħ y_i x_j)^k / (k (1 - e^{k γ ε ħ}))],
R_{i,j} = CF@IE_{i,j} → {i,j} [-ħ a_j b_i, -ħ x_j y_i / B_i,
1 + If[$k == 0, 0, (R_{i,j}, $k-1) $k [3] -
((R_{i,j}, 0) $k R_{1,2} (R_{i,3,4}, $k-1) $k) // (bm_{i,1-i} am_{j,2-j}) //
(bm_{i,3-i} am_{j,4-j}) [3]]],
P_{i,j} = IE_{i,j} → {i} [β_i α_j / ħ, η_i ξ_j / ħ,
1 + If[$k == 0, 0, (P_{i,j}, $k-1) $k [3] -
(R_{1,2} // ((P_{1,3}, 0) $k (P_{i,2}, $k-1) $k)) [3]]]]

```

```

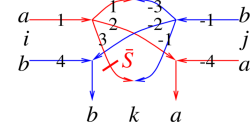
Define[aS_i = (aσ_{i-2} R_{1,i}) // P_{1,2},
aS_i = IE_{i} → {i} [-a_i α_i, -x_i A_i ξ_i,
1 + If[$k == 0, 0, (aS_{i}, $k-1) $k [3] -
((aS_{i}, 0) $k // aS_i // (aS_{i}, $k-1) $k) [3]]]]

```

```

Define[bS_i = bσ_{i-1} R_{i,2} // aS_2 // P_{1,2},
bS_i = bσ_{i-1} R_{i,2} // aS_2 // P_{1,2},
aΔ_{i,j,k} = (R_{1,j} R_{2,k}) // bm_{1,2-3} // P_{3,1},
bΔ_{i,j,k} = (R_{j,1} R_{k,2}) // am_{1,2-3} // P_{i,3}

```



The Drinfel'd double:

```

Define[
dm_{i,j} → k =
((sY_{i-4,4,1,1} // aΔ_{1-1,2} // aΔ_{2-2,3} // aS_3)
(sY_{j-1,-1,-4,-4} // bΔ_{-1-1,-2} // bΔ_{-2-2,-3})) //
(P_{-1,3} P_{-3,1} am_{2,-4} km_{4,-2-k})

```

```

Define[dσ_{i,j} = aσ_{i,j} bσ_{i,j},
de_i = se_i, dη_i = sη_i,
dS_i = sY_{i-1,1,2,2} // (bS_1 aS_2) // dm_{2,1-i},
dS_i = sY_{i-1,1,2,2} // (bS_1 aS_2) // dm_{2,1-i},
dΔ_{i,j,k} = (bΔ_{i-3,1} aΔ_{i-2,4}) // (dm_{3,4-k} dm_{1,2-j})

```

```

Define[C_i = IE_{i} → {i} [0, 0, B_i^{1/2} e^{-ħ ε a_i / 2}] $k,
C_i = IE_{i} → {i} [0, 0, B_i^{-1/2} e^{ħ ε a_i / 2}] $k,
Kink_i = (R_{1,3} C_2) // dm_{1,2-1} // dm_{1,3-i},
Kink_i = (R_{1,3} C_2) // dm_{1,2-1} // dm_{1,3-i}

```

Note.  $t = \epsilon a - \gamma b$  and  $b = -t/\gamma + \epsilon a/\gamma$ .

```

Define[b2t_i = IE_{i} → {i} [α_i a_i + β_i (ε a_i - t_i) / γ + ξ_i x_i + η_i y_i],
t2b_i = IE_{i} → {i} [α_i a_i + τ_i (ε a_i - γ b_i) + ξ_i x_i + η_i y_i]

```

### The Knot Tensors

```

Define[kR_{i,j} = R_{i,j} // (b2t_i b2t_j) /. t_i | j → t,
kR_{i,j} = R_{i,j} // (b2t_i b2t_j) /. {t_i | j → t, T_i | j → T},
km_{i,j} → k = (t2b_i t2b_j) // dm_{i,j} → k //
b2t_k /. {t_k → t, T_k → T, τ_i | j → 0},
kC_i = C_i // b2t_i /. T_i → T,
kC_i = C_i // b2t_i /. T_i → T,
kKink_i = Kink_i // b2t_i /. {t_i → t, T_i → T},
kKink_i = Kink_i // b2t_i /. {t_i → t, T_i → T}

```

### Some of the Atoms.

$\omega\epsilon\beta$ /atoms

With  $A_i := e^{\alpha_i}$  and  $B_i = e^{-b_i}$ ,

```

PP_ := Identity; $k = 1; ħ = γ = 1;
Column[
(# → (ε = ToExpression[#];
Normal@Simplify[ε[[1]] + ε[[2]] + Log@ε[[3]]]) & @
{"dm_{i,j} → k", "dΔ_{i,j,k}", "dS_i", "R_{i,j}", "P_{i,j}"}

```



$$\begin{aligned}
dm_{i,j \rightarrow k} &\rightarrow a_k (\alpha_i + \alpha_j) + b_k (\beta_i + \beta_j) + y_k \eta_i + \frac{y_k \eta_j}{\alpha_i} + \frac{x_k \xi_i}{\alpha_j} + \eta_j \xi_i - \\
& B_k \eta_j \xi_i + \frac{1}{4 \alpha_i \alpha_j} \in \left( 2 y_k \eta_j (2 x_k \xi_i + \alpha_j (-2 \beta_i + (1 - 3 B_k) \eta_j \xi_i)) + \right. \\
& \quad \alpha_i \xi_i (x_k (-4 \beta_j + 2 (1 - 3 B_k) \eta_j \xi_i) + \\
& \quad \left. \alpha_j \eta_j (4 a_k B_k + (1 - 4 B_k + 3 B_k^2) \eta_j \xi_i) \right) + x_k \xi_j \\
d\Delta_{i \rightarrow j, k} &\rightarrow a_j \alpha_i + a_k \alpha_i + b_j \beta_i + b_k \beta_i + y_j \eta_i + B_j y_k \eta_i + \\
& x_j \xi_i + x_k \xi_i + \frac{1}{2} \in (B_j y_j y_k \eta_i^2 + x_k \xi_i (-2 a_j + x_j \xi_i)) \\
dS_i &\rightarrow -a_i \alpha_i - b_i \beta_i - \frac{\alpha_i (y_i \eta_i + (-\eta_i + B_i (x_i + \eta_i)) \xi_i)}{B_i} - \\
& \frac{1}{4 B_i^2} \in \alpha_i (\alpha_i \eta_i^2 (2 y_i^2 - 6 y_i \xi_i + 3 \xi_i^2) + B_i^2 \xi_i (4 a_i x_i + 2 x_i^2 \alpha_i \xi_i + \\
& \quad 2 x_i (2 \beta_i + \alpha_i \eta_i \xi_i) + \eta_i (-4 + 4 \beta_i + \alpha_i \eta_i \xi_i)) + \\
& \quad 2 B_i \eta_i (y_i (-2 + 2 \beta_i + 2 x_i \alpha_i \xi_i + \alpha_i \eta_i \xi_i) - \\
& \quad \xi_i (-2 + 2 a_i + 2 \beta_i + 3 x_i \alpha_i \xi_i + 2 \alpha_i \eta_i \xi_i)) \\
R_{i,j} &\rightarrow a_j b_i + x_j y_i - \frac{1}{4} \in x_j^2 y_i^2 \\
P_{i,j} &\rightarrow \alpha_j \beta_i + \eta_i \xi_j + \frac{1}{4} \in \eta_i^2 \xi_j^2
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
E_{() \rightarrow (1)} &\left[ \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{0}, \frac{B}{1 - B + B^2} + \right. \\
& \left. \frac{B (-B + 2 B^2 + 2 B^4 + a (-1 + B - B^3 + B^4) - 2 x y - B^3 (3 + 2 x y))}{(1 - B + B^2)^3} \in + \right. \\
& \left. \frac{1}{2 (1 - B + B^2)^5} \right. \\
& \left. B (4 B^8 + a^2 (1 - B + B^2)^2 (1 + B - 6 B^2 + B^3 + B^4) + 6 B^5 x^2 y^2 + \right. \\
& \quad 2 x y (-2 + 3 x y) - B^7 (11 + 4 x y) - 2 B^2 (1 + 6 x^2 y^2) - \\
& \quad 2 B^4 (1 - 2 x y + 6 x^2 y^2) + B (1 + 8 x y + 6 x^2 y^2) + \\
& \quad B^6 (6 + 8 x y + 6 x^2 y^2) + B^3 (4 + 4 x y + 30 x^2 y^2) + \\
& \quad 2 a (1 - B + B^2) (2 B^6 + 2 x y + 8 B^3 (1 + x y) - 5 B^2 (1 + 2 x y) - \\
& \quad \left. \left. 2 B^5 (1 + 2 x y) - B^4 (7 + 2 x y) + B (2 + 4 x y) \right) \right) \in^2 + 0[\in]^3 \Big]
\end{aligned}$$

### A Quantum Algebra Example.

**Proto-Proposition**<sup>†0</sup> (with Jesse Frohlich and Roland van der Veen, near [Ma, Proposition 1.7.3]). Let  $H$  be a finite dimensional Hopf algebra and let  $U = H^{*cop} \otimes H$  be its Drinfel'd double, with  $R$ -matrix  $R \in H^* \otimes H \subset U \otimes U$ . Write  $R^{\dagger 1} = \sum \rho_a \otimes r_a$ , and let  $\langle \cdot | \cdot \rangle: H^* \otimes H \rightarrow \mathbb{F}$  be the duality pairing. Then the functional  $\int \in U^*$  defined by

$$\int \phi \otimes x := \sum \langle \phi \rho_a^{\dagger 2} | x r_a^{\dagger 3} \rangle$$

is a right<sup>†4</sup> integral in  $U^*$ . (Meaning  $\Delta_{jk}^i // \int_j = \int_i // \epsilon_k$  in  $\text{Hom}(U^{\otimes \{i\}} \rightarrow U^{\otimes \{k\}})$ ).

†0 A “proto-proposition” is something that will become a proposition once you figure out the correct statement. †1 Or did we want it to be  $R // S_1^2$ ? Or  $R // S_2^2$ ? †2 Or is it  $\rho_a \phi$ ? †3 Or is it  $r_a x$ ? †4 Or maybe “left”?

`inp = E_{() \rightarrow (1)} [3 a_1 b_1, 5 x_1 y_1, 1] // dm_{i,1 \rightarrow i};`

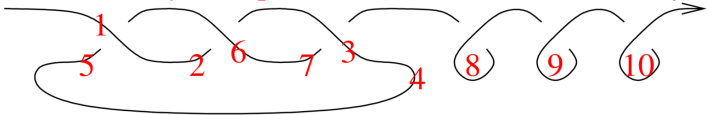
`Table[`

```

HL@TrueQ[
  (inp // (S_{Y_{i \rightarrow 1,1,2,2}} RR) // BM // AM // P_{1,2}) de_j =
  (inp // \Delta \Delta // (S_{Y_{i \rightarrow 1,1,2,2}} RR) // BM // AM // P_{1,2}) ],
{ \Delta \Delta, { d\Delta_{i \rightarrow j, i}, d\Delta_{i \rightarrow j, i} }, { AM, { dm_{2,4 \rightarrow 2}, dm_{4,2 \rightarrow 2} } },
{ BM, { dm_{1,3 \rightarrow 1}, dm_{3,1 \rightarrow 1} } },
{ RR, { R_{3,4}, R_{3,4} // dS_3 // dS_3, R_{3,4} // dS_4 // dS_4 } }
] // MatrixForm
( (False False False) (False False True)
  (False False False) (False False False)
  (False False False) (False False False)
  (False False True) (False False False) )

```

### A Knot Theory Example.



`$k = 2;`

`Simplify[`

```

R_{1,5} R_{6,2} R_{3,7} \bar{C}_4 \bar{Kink}_8 \bar{Kink}_9 \bar{Kink}_{10} // dm_{1,2 \rightarrow 1} // dm_{1,3 \rightarrow 1} //
dm_{1,4 \rightarrow 1} // dm_{1,5 \rightarrow 1} // dm_{1,6 \rightarrow 1} // dm_{1,7 \rightarrow 1} // dm_{1,8 \rightarrow 1} //
dm_{1,9 \rightarrow 1} // dm_{1,10 \rightarrow 1} ] / \cdot v_{-1} \rightarrow v

```

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**KiW 43 Abstract** ( $\omega\epsilon\beta/\text{kiw}$ ). Whether or not you like the formulas on this page, they describe the strongest truly computable knot invariant we know.

**Observations.** • Separates the Rolfsen table; does better than

Khovanov plus HOMFLY-PT on knots with up to 12 crossings (not tested beyond). • The degrees are bounded by the genus!

•  $\rho_1$  vanishes for amphichiral knots. • Has a chance of detecting non-ribbonness ( $\omega\epsilon\beta/\text{akt}$ )!

knot diag	$n'_k$ $(\rho'_1)^+$	Alexander's $\omega^+$	genus / ribbon unknotting # / amphi?	$(\rho'_2)^+$	knot diag	$n'_k$ $(\rho'_1)^+$	Alexander's $\omega^+$	genus / ribbon unknotting # / amphi?	$(\rho'_2)^+$	knot diag	$n'_k$ $(\rho'_1)^+$	Alexander's $\omega^+$	genus / ribbon unknotting # / amphi?	$(\rho'_2)^+$
	$0_1^a$ 0	1	0 / ✓ 0 / ✓			$3_1^a$ T	T-1 T	1 / ✗ 1 / ✗			$4_1^a$ 0	3-T	1 / ✗ 1 / ✓	
	$5_1^a$ $2T^3+3T$	$T^2-T+1$	2 / ✗ 2 / ✗			$5_2^a$ 5T-4	2T-3 5T-4	1 / ✗ 1 / ✗			$6_1^a$ T-4	5-2T	1 / ✓ 1 / ✗	
	$6_2^a$ $T^3-4T^2+4T-4$	$-T^2+3T-3$	2 / ✗ 1 / ✗			$6_3^a$ 0	$T^2-3T+5$	2 / ✗ 1 / ✓			$7_1^a$ $3T^5+5T^3+6T$	$T^3-T^2+T-1$	3 / ✗ 3 / ✗	
	$7_2^a$ 14T-16	3T-5	1 / ✗ 1 / ✗			$7_3^a$ -9T^3+8T^2-16T+12	2T^2-3T+3 -9T^3+8T^2-16T+12	2 / ✗ 2 / ✗			$7_4^a$ 32-24T	4T-7	1 / ✗ 2 / ✗	
	$7_5^a$ $9T^3-16T^2+29T-28$	$2T^2-4T+5$	2 / ✗ 2 / ✗			$7_6^a$ $T^3-8T^2+19T-20$	$-T^2+5T-7$	2 / ✗ 1 / ✗			$7_7^a$ 8-3T	$T^2-5T+9$	2 / ✗ 1 / ✗	
	$8_1^a$ 5T-16	7-3T	1 / ✗ 1 / ✗			$8_2^a$ $2T^5-8T^4+10T^3-12T^2+13T-12$	$-T^3+3T^2-3T+3$	3 / ✗ 2 / ✗			$8_3^a$ 0	9-4T	1 / ✗ 2 / ✓	
	$8_4^a$ $3T^3-8T^2+6T-4$	$-2T^2+5T-5$	2 / ✗ 2 / ✗			$8_5^a$ $-2T^5+8T^4-13T^3+20T^2-22T+24$	$-T^3+3T^2-4T+5$	3 / ✗ 2 / ✗			$8_6^a$ $5T^3-20T^2+28T-32$	$-2T^2+6T-7$	2 / ✗ 2 / ✗	
	$8_7^a$ $-T^5+4T^4-10T^3+12T^2-13T+12$	$T^3-3T^2+5T-5$	3 / ✗ 1 / ✗			$8_8^a$ $-T^3+4T^2-12T+16$	$2T^2-6T+9$	2 / ✓ 2 / ✗			$8_9^a$ 0	$-T^3+3T^2-5T+7$	3 / ✓ 1 / ✓	
	$8_{10}^a$ $-T^5+4T^4-11T^3+16T^2-21T+20$	$T^3-3T^2+5T-5$	3 / ✗ 2 / ✗			$8_{11}^a$ $5T^3-24T^2+39T-44$	$-2T^2+7T-9$	2 / ✗ 1 / ✗			$8_{12}^a$ 0	$T^2-7T+13$	2 / ✗ 2 / ✓	
	$8_{13}^a$ $-T^3+4T^2-14T+20$	$2T^2-7T+11$	2 / ✗ 1 / ✗			$8_{14}^a$ $5T^3-28T^2+57T-68$	$-2T^2+8T-11$	2 / ✗ 1 / ✗			$8_{15}^a$ $21T^3-64T^2+120T-140$	$3T^2-8T+11$	2 / ✗ 2 / ✗	
	$8_{16}^a$ $T^5-6T^4+17T^3-28T^2+35T-36$	$T^3-4T^2+8T-9$	3 / ✗ 2 / ✗			$8_{17}^a$ 0	$-T^3+4T^2-8T+11$	3 / ✗ 1 / ✓			$8_{18}^a$ 0	$-T^3+5T^2-10T+13$	3 / ✗ 2 / ✓	
	$8_{19}^a$ $-3T^5-4T^2-3T$	$T^3-T^2+1$	3 / ✗ 3 / ✗			$8_{20}^a$ 4T-4	$T^2-2T+3$	2 / ✓ 1 / ✗			$8_{21}^a$ $T^3-8T^2+16T-20$	$-T^2+4T-5$	2 / ✗ 1 / ✗	

knot diag	$n'_k$ $(\rho'_1)^+$	Alexander's $\omega^+$	genus / ribbon unknotting # / amphi?	$(\rho'_2)^+$	knot diag	$n'_k$ $(\rho'_1)^+$	Alexander's $\omega^+$	genus / ribbon unknotting # / amphi?	$(\rho'_2)^+$
	$9_1^a$ $4T^7+7T^5+9T^3+10T$	$T^4-T^3+T^2-T+1$	4 / ✗ 4 / ✗			$9_2^a$ 30T-40	4T-7	1 / ✗ 1 / ✗	
	$9_3^a$ $-13T^5+12T^4-25T^3+20T^2-32T+24$	$2T^3-3T^2+3T-3$	3 / ✗ 3 / ✗			$9_4^a$ 23T^3-28T^2+46T-44	3T^2-5T+5	2 / ✗ 2 / ✗	

Video and more: <http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Talks/CRM-1907>,  
<http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Talks/UCLA-191101>.



# Computation without Representation

$\omega\epsilon\beta := \text{http://drorbn.net/o19/}$

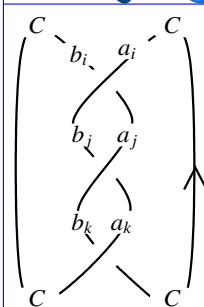
**Abstract.** A major part of “quantum topology” is the definition and computation of various knot invariants by carrying out computations in quantum groups. Traditionally these computations are carried out “in a representation”, but this is very slow: one has to use tensor powers of these representations, and the dimensions of powers grow exponentially fast.

In my talk, I will describe a direct method for carrying out such computations without having to choose a representation and explain why in many ways the results are better and faster. The two key points we use are a technique for composing infinite-order “perturbed Gaussian” differential operators, and the little-known fact that every semi-simple Lie algebra can be approximated by solvable Lie algebras, where computations are easier.

**KiW 43 Abstract** ( $\omega\epsilon\beta$ /kiw). Whether or not you like the formulas on this page, they describe the strongest truly computable knot invariant we know. (experimental analysis @ $\omega\epsilon\beta$ /kiw)

## Knotted Candies

$\omega\epsilon\beta$ /kc



**The Yang-Baxter Technique.** Given an algebra  $U$  (typically  $\hat{U}(\mathfrak{g})$  or  $\hat{U}_q(\mathfrak{g})$ ) and elements

$$R = \sum a_i \otimes b_i \in U \otimes U \quad \text{and} \quad C \in U,$$

$$\text{form} \quad Z = \sum_{i,j,k} C a_i b_j a_k C^2 b_i a_j b_k C.$$

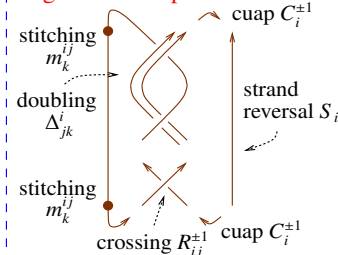
**Problem.** Extract information from  $Z$ .

**The Dogma.** Use representation theory. In principle finite, but slow.

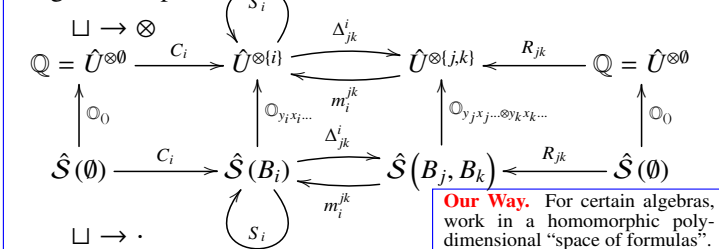
## A Knot Theory Portfolio.

- Has operations  $\sqcup, m_k^{ij}, \Delta_{jk}^i, S_i$ .
- All tangleoids are generated by  $R^{\pm 1}$  and  $C^{\pm 1}$  (so “easy” to produce invariants).
- Makes some knot properties (“genus”, “ribbon”) become “definable”.

## Tangleoids and Operations

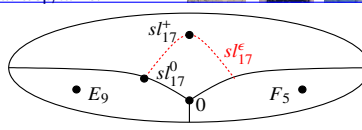


**A “Quantum Group” Portfolio** consists of a vector space  $U$  along with maps (and some axioms...)

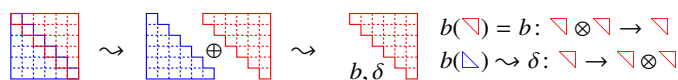


**Our Way.** For certain algebras, work in a homomorphic poly-dimensional “space of formulas”.

**The (fake) moduli** of Lie algebras on  $V$ , a quadratic variety in  $(V^*)^{\otimes 2} \otimes V$  is on the right. We care about  $sl_{17}^k := sl_{17}^\epsilon / (\epsilon^{k+1} = 0)$ .



**Solvable Approximation.** In  $gl_n$ , half is enough! Indeed  $gl_n \oplus \mathfrak{a}_n = \mathcal{D}(\nabla, b, \delta)$ :



Now define  $gl_n^\epsilon := \mathcal{D}(\nabla, b, \epsilon\delta)$ . Schematically, this is  $[\nabla, \nabla] = \nabla$ ,  $[\Delta, \Delta] = \epsilon\Delta$ , and  $[\nabla, \Delta] = \Delta + \epsilon\nabla$ . The same process works for all semi-simple Lie algebras, and at  $\epsilon^{k+1} = 0$  always yields a solvable Lie algebra.

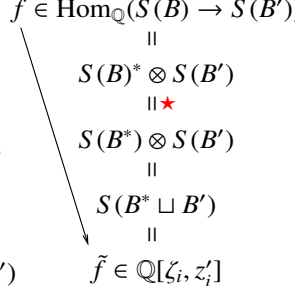
**CU and QU.** Starting from  $sl_2$ , get  $CU_\epsilon = \langle y, a, x, t \rangle / ([t, -] = 0, [a, y] = -y, [a, x] = x, [x, y] = 2\epsilon a - t)$ . Quantize using standard tools (I’m sorry) and get  $QU_\epsilon = \langle y, a, x, t \rangle / ([t, -] = 0, [a, y] = -y, [a, x] = x, xy - e^{\hbar\epsilon}yx = (1 - T e^{-2\hbar\epsilon a})/\hbar)$ .

**PBW Bases.** The  $U$ ’s we care about always have “Poincaré-Birkhoff-Witt” bases; there is some finite set  $B = \{y, x, \dots\}$  of “generators” and isomorphisms  $\mathbb{O}_{y,x,\dots} : \hat{S}(B) \rightarrow U$  defined by “ordering monomials” to some fixed  $y, x, \dots$  order. The quantum group portfolio now becomes a “symmetric algebra” portfolio, or a “power series” portfolio.

## Operations are Objects.

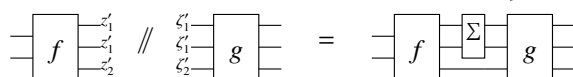
★  $B^* := \{z_i^m = \zeta_i^n : z_i \in B\}$ ,  $\langle z_i^m, \zeta_i^n \rangle = \delta_{mn} n!$ ,  $\langle \prod z_i^{m_i}, \prod \zeta_i^{n_i} \rangle = \prod \delta_{m_i n_i} n_i!$

in general, for  $f \in S(z_i)$  and  $g \in S(\zeta_i)$ ,  $\langle f, g \rangle = f(\partial_{z_i})g|_{z_i=0} = g(\partial_{z_i})f|_{z_i=0}$ .



## The Composition Law.

If  $S(B) \xrightarrow[\tilde{f} \in \mathbb{Q}[\zeta_i, z'_j]]{f} S(B') \xrightarrow[\tilde{g} \in \mathbb{Q}[\zeta'_j, z''_k]]{g} S(B'')$  then  $(\tilde{f} \parallel \tilde{g}) = (\tilde{g} \circ f) = (\tilde{g}|_{z'_j \rightarrow \partial_{z'_j}} \tilde{f})|_{z'_j=0} = (\tilde{f}|_{z'_j \rightarrow \partial_{z'_j}} \tilde{g})|_{z'_j=0}$



1. The 1-variable identity map  $I : S(z) \rightarrow S(z)$  is given by  $\tilde{I}_1 = \mathbb{P}^{z\zeta}$  and the  $n$ -variable one by  $\tilde{I}_n = \mathbb{P}^{z_1\zeta_1 + \dots + z_n\zeta_n}$ :

$$\tilde{I}_1 = \square + \frac{1}{2} \square + \frac{1}{6} \square + \dots$$

2. The “archetypal multiplication map  $m_k^{ij} : S(z_i, z_j) \rightarrow S(z_k)$ ” has  $\tilde{m} = \mathbb{P}^{z_k(\zeta_i + \zeta_j)}$ .
3. The “archetypal coproduct  $\Delta_{jk}^i : S(z_i) \rightarrow S(z_j, z_k)$ ”, given by  $z_i \rightarrow z_j + z_k$  or  $\Delta z = z \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes z$ , has  $\tilde{\Delta} = \mathbb{P}^{(z_j + z_k)\zeta_i}$ .
4.  $R$ -matrices tend to have terms of the form  $e^{\hbar y_1 x_2} \in \mathcal{U}_q \otimes \mathcal{U}_q$ . The “baby  $R$ -matrix” is  $\tilde{R} = e^{\hbar y x} \in S(y, x)$ .
5. The “Weyl form of the canonical commutation relations” states that if  $[y, x] = tI$  then  $e^{\xi x} e^{\eta y} = e^{\eta y} e^{\xi x} e^{-\eta \xi t}$ . So with

$$sw_{xy} \left( S(y, x) \xrightarrow[\mathbb{O}_{yx}]{\mathbb{O}_{xy}} \mathcal{U}(y, x) \right) \text{ we have } \tilde{SW}_{xy} = \mathbb{P}^{\eta y + \xi x - \eta \xi t}.$$

**The Real Thing.** In the algebra  $QU_\epsilon$ , over  $\mathbb{Q}[[\hbar]]$  using the  $yaxt$  order,  $T = e^{\hbar t}$ ,  $\tilde{T} = T^{-1}$ ,  $\mathcal{A} = e^\alpha$ , and  $\tilde{\mathcal{A}} = \mathcal{A}^{-1}$ , we have

$$\tilde{R}_{ij} = e^{\hbar(y_i x_j - t_i a_j)} \left( 1 + \epsilon \hbar (a_i a_j - \hbar^2 y_i^2 x_j^2 / 4) + O(\epsilon^2) \right)$$

in  $\mathcal{S}(B_i, B_j)$ , and in  $\mathcal{S}(B_1^*, B_2^*, B)$  we have

$$\tilde{m} = e^{(\alpha_1 + \alpha_2) a + \eta_2 \xi_1 (1 - T) / \hbar + (\xi_1 \tilde{\mathcal{A}}_2 + \xi_2) x + (\eta_1 + \eta_2 \tilde{\mathcal{A}}_1) y} \left( 1 + \epsilon \lambda + O(\epsilon^2) \right),$$

where  $\lambda = \frac{2a\eta_2 \xi_1 T + \eta_2^2 \xi_1^2 (3T^2 - 4T + 1) / 4\hbar - \eta_2 \xi_1^2 (3T - 1) x \tilde{\mathcal{A}}_2 / 2 - \eta_2^2 \xi_1 (3T - 1) y \tilde{\mathcal{A}}_1 / 2 + \eta_2 \xi_1 x y \hbar \tilde{\mathcal{A}}_1 \tilde{\mathcal{A}}_2}{2}$ .

Finally,

$$\tilde{\Delta} = e^{\tau(t_1 + t_2) + \eta(y_1 + T_1 y_2) + \alpha(a_1 + a_2) + \xi(x_1 + x_2)} (1 + O(\epsilon)) \in \mathcal{S}(B^*, B_1, B_2),$$

$$\text{and } \tilde{S} = e^{-\tau t - \alpha a - \eta \xi (1 - \tilde{T}) \mathcal{A} / \hbar - \tilde{T} \eta y \mathcal{A} - \xi x \mathcal{A}} (1 + O(\epsilon)) \in \mathcal{S}(B^*, B).$$

**The Zipping Issue.**

(between unbound and bound lies half-zipped).



**Zipping.** If  $P(\zeta^j, z_i)$  is a polynomial, or whenever otherwise convergent, set  $\langle P(\zeta^j, z_i) \rangle_{(\zeta^j)} = P(\partial_{z_j}, z_i) \Big|_{z_i=0}$ . (E.g., if  $P = \sum a_{nm} \zeta^n z^m$  then  $\langle P \rangle_\zeta = \sum a_{nm} \partial_z^n z^m \Big|_{z=0} = \sum n! a_{nm}$ ).

**The Zipping / Contraction Theorem.** If  $P = P(\zeta^j, z_i)$  has a finite  $\zeta$ -degree and the  $y$ 's and the  $q$ 's are "small" then

$$\langle P e^{c + \eta^j z_j + y_i \zeta^i + q_j^i z_i \zeta^j} \rangle_{(\zeta^j)} = \det(\tilde{q}) e^{c + \eta^j q_j^k} \left\langle P \Big|_{z_i \rightarrow \tilde{q}_i^k (z_k + y_k)} \right\rangle_{(\zeta^j)}$$

where  $\tilde{q}$  is the inverse matrix of  $1 - q$ :  $(\delta_j^i - q_j^i) \tilde{q}_k^j = \delta_k^i$ .

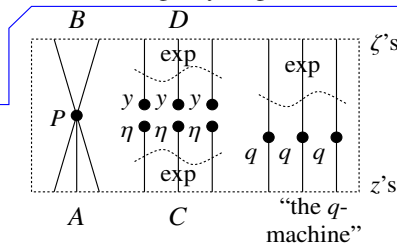
**Exponential Reservoirs.** The true Hilbert hotel is exp! Remove one  $x$  from an "exponential reservoir" of  $x$ 's and you are left with the same exponential reservoir:

$$e^x = \left[ \dots + \frac{xxxxx}{120} + \dots \right] \xrightarrow{\partial_x} \left[ \dots + \frac{xxxx}{120} + \dots \right] = (e^x)' = e^x,$$

and if you let each element choose left or right, you get twice the same reservoir:

$$e^x \xrightarrow{x \rightarrow x_l + x_r} e^{x_l + x_r} = e^{x_l} e^{x_r}.$$

**A Graphical Proof.** Glue top to bottom on the right, in all possible ways. Several scenarios occur:



1. Start at A, go through the  $q$ -machine  $k \geq 0$  times, stop at B. Get  $\langle P(\zeta, \sum_{k \geq 0} q^k z) \rangle = \langle P(\zeta, \tilde{q} z) \rangle$ .
2. Loop through the  $q$ -machine and swallow your own tail. Get  $\exp(\sum q^k / k) = \exp(-\log(1 - q)) = \tilde{q}$ .
3. ...

By the reservoir splitting principle, these scenarios contribute multiplicatively. □

**Implementation.** ( $\mathbb{E}[Q, P]$  means  $e^Q P$ )  $\omega\epsilon\beta/\text{Zip}$

```
Zip_{\zeta^s\_list} @ \mathbb{E}[Q_, P_] :=
Module[{ {\zeta, z, zs, c, ys, \eta_s, qt, zrule, \xi rule},
  zs = Table[\zeta^s, {\zeta, \zeta^s}];
  c = Q /. Alternatives @@ (\zeta^s \cup zs) \to 0;
  ys = Table[\partial_{\zeta} (Q /. Alternatives @@ \zeta^s \to 0), {\zeta, \zeta^s}];
  \eta_s = Table[\partial_z (Q /. Alternatives @@ \zeta^s \to 0), {z, zs}];
  qt = Inverse@Table[K\delta_{z, \zeta^s} - \partial_{z, \zeta} Q, {\zeta, \zeta^s}, {z, zs}];
  zrule = Thread[zs \to qt. (zs + ys)];
  \xi rule = Thread[\zeta^s \to \zeta^s + \eta_s.qt];
  Simplify /@
  \mathbb{E}[c + \eta_s.qt.y_s, Det[qt] Zip_{\zeta^s}[P /. (zrule \cup \xi rule)]]];
```

**Real Zipping** is a minor mess, and is done in two phases:

	$\tau a$ -phase		$\xi y$ -phase	
$\zeta$ -like variables	$\tau$	$a$	$\xi$	$y$
$z$ -like variables	$t$	$\alpha$	$x$	$\eta$

Already at  $\epsilon = 0$  we get the best known formulas for the Alexander polynomial!

**Generic Docility.** A "docile perturbed Gaussian" in the variables  $(z_i)_{i \in S}$  over the ring  $R$  is an expression of the form

$$e^{q^{ij} z_i z_j} P = e^{q^{ij} z_i z_j} \left( \sum_{k \geq 0} \epsilon^k P_k \right),$$

where all coefficients are in  $R$  and where  $P$  is a "docile series":  $\deg P_k \leq 4k$ .

**Our Docility.** In the case of  $QU_\epsilon$ , all invariants and operations are of the form  $e^{L+Q} P$ , where

- $L$  is a quadratic of the form  $\sum l_{z\zeta} z \zeta$ , where  $z$  runs over  $\{t_i, \alpha_i\}_{i \in S}$  and  $\zeta$  over  $\{\tau_i, a_i\}_{i \in S}$ , with integer coefficients  $l_{z\zeta}$ .
- $Q$  is a quadratic of the form  $\sum q_{z\zeta} z \zeta$ , where  $z$  runs over  $\{x_i, \eta_i\}_{i \in S}$  and  $\zeta$  over  $\{\xi_i, y_i\}_{i \in S}$ , with coefficients  $q_{z\zeta}$  in the ring  $R_S$  of rational functions in  $\{T_i, \mathcal{A}_i\}_{i \in S}$ .
- $P$  is a docile power series in  $\{y_i, a_i, x_i, \eta_i, \xi_i\}_{i \in S}$  with coefficients in  $R_S$ , and where  $\deg(y_i, a_i, x_i, \eta_i, \xi_i) = (1, 2, 1, 1, 1)$ .

**Docility Matters!** The rank of the space of docile series to  $\epsilon^k$  is polynomial in the number of variables  $|S|$ . !!!!

- At  $\epsilon^2 = 0$  we get the Rozansky-Overbay [Ro1, Ro2, Ro3, Ov] invariant, which is stronger than HOMFLY-PT polynomial and Khovanov homology taken together!
- In general, get "higher diagonals in the Melvin-Morton-Rozansky expansion of the coloured Jones polynomial" [MM, BNG], but why spoil something good?

[BNG] D. Bar-Natan and S. Garoufalidis, *On the Melvin-Morton-Rozansky conjecture*, Invent. Math. **125** (1996) 103–133.

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[Ov] A. Overbay, *Perturbative Expansion of the Colored Jones Polynomial*, University of North Carolina PhD thesis,  $\omega\epsilon\beta/\text{Ov}$ .

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[Ro1] L. Rozansky, *A contribution of the trivial flat connection to the Jones polynomial and Witten's invariant of 3d manifolds, I*, Comm. Math. Phys. **175-2** (1996) 275–296, arXiv:hep-th/9401061.

[Ro2] L. Rozansky, *The Universal R-Matrix, Braid Representation and the Melvin-Morton Expansion of the Colored Jones Polynomial*, Adv. Math. **134-1** (1998) 1–31, arXiv:q-alg/9604005.

[Ro3] L. Rozansky, *A Universal U(1)-RCC Invariant of Links and Rationality Conjecture*, arXiv:math/0201139.

[Za] D. Zagier, *The Dilogarithm Function*, in Cartier, Moussa, Julia, and Vanhove (eds) *Frontiers in Number Theory, Physics, and Geometry II*. Springer, Berlin, Heidelberg, and  $\omega\epsilon\beta/\text{Za}$ .



"God created the knots, all else in topology is the work of mortals."

Leopold Kronecker (modified)

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**The Algebras  $H$  and  $H^*$ .** Let  $q = e^{\hbar\epsilon\gamma}$  and set  $H = \langle a, x \rangle / ([a, x] = \gamma x)$  with

$$A = e^{-\hbar\epsilon a}, \quad xA = qAx, \quad S_H(a, A, x) = (-a, A^{-1}, -A^{-1}x),$$

$$\Delta_H(a, A, x) = (a_1 + a_2, A_1A_2, x_1 + A_1x_2)$$

and dual  $H^* = \langle b, y \rangle / ([b, y] = -\epsilon y)$  with

$$B = e^{-\hbar\epsilon yb}, \quad By = qyB, \quad S_{H^*}(b, B, y) = (-b, B^{-1}, -yB^{-1}),$$

$$\Delta_{H^*}(b, B, y) = (b_1 + b_2, B_1B_2, y_1B_2 + y_2).$$

Pairing by  $(a, x)^* = (b, y)$  ( $\Leftrightarrow \langle B, A \rangle = q$ ) making  $\langle y^i b^j, a^j x^k \rangle = \delta_{ij} \delta_{ki} j! [k]_q!$  so  $R = \sum \frac{y^k b^j \otimes a^i x^k}{j! [k]_q!}$ .

**The Algebra  $QU$ .** Using the Drinfel'd double procedure,  $QU_{\gamma, \epsilon} := H^{*cop} \otimes H$  with  $(\phi f)(\psi g) = \langle \psi_1 S^{-1} f_3 \rangle \langle \psi_3, f_1 \rangle \langle \phi \psi_2 \rangle \langle f_2 g \rangle$  and

$$S(y, b, a, x) = (-B^{-1}y, -b, -a, -A^{-1}x),$$

$$\Delta(y, b, a, x) = (y_1 + y_2 B_1, b_1 + b_2, a_1 + a_2, x_1 + A_1 x_2).$$

Note also that  $t := \epsilon a - \gamma b$  is central and can replace  $b$ , and set  $QU = QU_\epsilon = QU_{1, \epsilon}$ .

**The 2D Lie Algebra.** One may show\* that if  $[a, x] = \gamma x$  then  $e^{\epsilon x} e^{a\alpha} = e^{a\alpha} e^{e^{-\gamma\alpha} \epsilon x}$ . Ergo with

$$SW_{ax} \begin{array}{c} \curvearrowright \\ \curvearrowleft \end{array} S(a, x) \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{O_{ax}} \\ \xleftarrow{O_{xa}} \end{array} U(a, x)$$

we have  $\widetilde{SW}_{ax} = e^{a\alpha + e^{-\gamma\alpha} \epsilon x}$ .

\* Indeed  $xa = (a - \gamma)x$  thus  $xa^n = (a - \gamma)^n x$  thus  $x e^{a\alpha} = e^{\alpha(a-\gamma)x} = e^{-\gamma\alpha} e^{a\alpha} x$  thus  $x^n e^{a\alpha} = e^{a\alpha} (e^{-\gamma\alpha})^n x^n$  thus  $e^{\epsilon x} e^{a\alpha} = e^{a\alpha} e^{-\gamma\alpha} e^{\epsilon x}$ .

**Faddeev's Formula** (In as much as we can tell, first appeared without proof in Faddeev [Fa], rediscovered and proven in Quesne [Qu], and again with easier proof, in Zagier [Za]). With  $[n]_q := \frac{q^n - 1}{q - 1}$ , with  $[n]_q! := [1]_q [2]_q \cdots [n]_q$  and with  $e_q^x := \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{x^n}{[n]_q!}$ , we have

$$\log e_q^x = \sum_{k \geq 1} \frac{(1-q)^k x^k}{k(1-q^k)} = x + \frac{(1-q)^2 x^2}{2(1-q^2)} + \dots$$

**Proof.** We have that  $e_q^x = \frac{e^{qx} - e^x}{qx - x}$  ("the  $q$ -derivative of  $e_q^x$  is itself"), and hence  $e_q^{qx} = (1 + (1-q)x)e_q^x$ , and

$$\log e_q^{qx} = \log(1 + (1-q)x) + \log e_q^x.$$

Writing  $\log e_q^x = \sum_{k \geq 1} a_k x^k$  and comparing powers of  $x$ , we get  $q^k a_k = -(1-q)^k / k + a_k$ , or  $a_k = \frac{(1-q)^k}{k(1-q^k)}$ .  $\square$

**A Full Implementation.**

$\omega\epsilon\beta/\text{Full}$

Utilities

```
CF[sd_SeriesData] := MapAt[CF, sd, 3];
CF[ε_] := ExpandDenominator@ExpandNumerator@Together[
  Expand[ε] /. e^x - e^y -> e^{x+y} /. e^x -> e^{CF[x]}];
```

```
Kδ /: Kδ_{i,j} := If[i == j, 1, 0];
E /: E[L1_, Q1_, P1_] ≡ E[L2_, Q2_, P2_] :=
  CF[L1 == L2] ∧ CF[Q1 == Q2] ∧ CF[Normal[P1 - P2] == 0];
E /: E[L1_, Q1_, P1_] E[L2_, Q2_, P2_] :=
  E[L1 + L2, Q1 + Q2, P1 + P2];
E[L_, Q_, P_]_{sk} := E[L, Q, Series[Normal@P, {ε, 0, sk}]]];
```

Zip and Bind

```
{t*, b*, y*, a*, x*, z*} = {τ, β, η, α, ξ, ζ};
{τ*, β*, η*, α*, ξ*, ζ*} = {t, b, y, a, x, z};
(u_{i*})* := (u*)_i;
```

```
collect[sd_SeriesData, ε_] :=
  MapAt[collect[#, ε_] &, sd, 3];
collect[ε_, ε_] := Collect[ε, ε];
Zip_{i}[P_] := P; Zip_{(ε, ε_{i...})}[P_] :=
  (collect[P // Zip_{ε_{i...}}, ε] /. f_ -> ε^{d_{i...}} -> ∂_{ε_{i...}} f) /. ε^* -> 0
QZip_{ε_{i...}}@E[L_, Q_, P_] :=
```

```
Module[{ε, z, zs, c, ys, ηs, qt, zrule, εrule},
  zs = Table[ε^*, {ε, ε_{i...}}];
  c = CF[Q /. Alternatives@@(ε_{i...} ∪ zs) -> 0];
  ys = CF@Table[∂_ε(Q /. Alternatives@@zs -> 0), {ε, ε_{i...}}];
  ηs = CF@Table[∂_z(Q /. Alternatives@@ε_{i...} -> 0), {z, zs}];
  qt = CF@Inverse@Table[Kδ_{z, ε^*} - ∂_{z, ε} Q, {ε, ε_{i...}}, {z, zs}];
  zrule = Thread[zs -> CF[qt.(zs + ys)]];
  εrule = Thread[ε_{i...} -> ε_{i...} + ηs.qt];
  CF /@ E[L, c + ηs.qt.y,
    Det[qt] Zip_{ε_{i...}}[P /. (zrule ∪ εrule)]];
U21 = {B_{i...}^{p_{i...}} -> e^{-p_{i...} \hbar \gamma b_i}, B_{i...}^{p_{i...}} -> e^{-p_{i...} \hbar \gamma b}, T_{i...}^{p_{i...}} -> e^{p_{i...} \hbar t_i},
  T_{i...}^{p_{i...}} -> e^{p_{i...} \hbar t}, \mathcal{A}_{i...}^{p_{i...}} -> e^{p_{i...} \gamma a_i}, \mathcal{A}_{i...}^{p_{i...}} -> e^{p_{i...} \gamma a}};
L2U = {e^{c_{i...} b_i + d_{i...}} -> B_{i...}^{-c/(h \gamma)} e^d, e^{c_{i...} b + d_{i...}} -> B^{-c/(h \gamma)} e^d,
  e^{c_{i...} t_i + d_{i...}} -> T_{i...}^{c/h} e^d, e^{c_{i...} t + d_{i...}} -> T^{c/h} e^d,
  e^{c_{i...} a_i + d_{i...}} -> \mathcal{A}_{i...}^{c/\gamma} e^d, e^{c_{i...} a + d_{i...}} -> \mathcal{A}^{c/\gamma} e^d,
  e^{\epsilon} -> e^{\text{Expand}[\epsilon]}};
```

```
LZip_{ε_{i...}}@E[L_, Q_, P_] :=
  Module[{ε, z, zs, c, ys, ηs, lt, zrule, L1, L2, Q1, Q2},
  zs = Table[ε^*, {ε, ε_{i...}}];
  c = L /. Alternatives@@(ε_{i...} ∪ zs) -> 0;
  ys = Table[∂_ε(L /. Alternatives@@zs -> 0), {ε, ε_{i...}}];
  ηs = Table[∂_z(L /. Alternatives@@ε_{i...} -> 0), {z, zs}];
  lt = Inverse@Table[Kδ_{z, ε^*} - ∂_{z, ε} L, {ε, ε_{i...}}, {z, zs}];
  zrule = Thread[zs -> lt.(zs + ys)];
  L2 = (L1 = c + ηs.zs /. zrule) /. Alternatives@@zs -> 0;
  Q2 = (Q1 = Q /. U21 /. zrule) /. Alternatives@@zs -> 0;
  CF /@ E[L2, Q2, Det[lt] e^{-L2-Q2}
    Zip_{ε_{i...}}[e^{L1+Q1} (P /. U21 /. zrule)]] // L2U];
```

```
B_{i...}[L_, R_] := LR;
B_{is_{i...}}[L_{E}, R_{E}] := Module[{n, Times[
  L /. Table[(v : b | B | t | T | a | x | y)_i -> v_{nei}, {i, {is}}]],
  R /. Table[(v : β | τ | α | \mathcal{A} | ξ | η)_i -> v_{nei}, {i, {is}}]}
] // LZipJoin@E@Table[{β_{nei}, τ_{nei}, a_{nei}}, {i, {is}}] //
  QZipJoin@E@Table[{ε_{nei}, y_{nei}}, {i, {is}}];
B_{is_{i...}}[L_, R_] := B_{is}[L, R];
```

**E morphisms with domain and range.**

```
B_{is_{i...}}[E_{d1 -> r1}[L1_, Q1_, P1_], E_{d2 -> r2}[L2_, Q2_, P2_] :=
  E_{(d1 ∪ Complement[d2, is]) -> (r2 ∪ Complement[r1, is])} @@
  B_{is}[E[L1, Q1, P1], E[L2, Q2, P2]];
E_{d1 -> r1}[L1_, Q1_, P1_] // E_{d2 -> r2}[L2_, Q2_, P2_] :=
  B_{r1 ∩ d2}[E_{d1 -> r1}[L1, Q1, P1], E_{d2 -> r2}[L2, Q2, P2]];
E_{d1 -> r1}[L1_, Q1_, P1_] ≡ E_{d2 -> r2}[L2_, Q2_, P2_] ^:=
  (d1 == d2) ∧ (r1 == r2) ∧ (E[L1, Q1, P1] ≡ E[L2, Q2, P2]);
E_{d1 -> r1}[L1_, Q1_, P1_] E_{d2 -> r2}[L2_, Q2_, P2_] ^:=
  E_{(d1 ∪ d2) -> (r1 ∪ r2)} @@ (E[L1, Q1, P1] E[L2, Q2, P2]);
E_{d -> r}[L_, Q_, P_]_{sk} := E_{d -> r} @@ E[L, Q, P]_{sk};
E_{[ε_{i...}]}[i_] := {ε}[i];
```

"Define" code

```
SetAttributes[Define, HoldAll];
Define[def_, defs_] := (Define[def]; Define[defs]);
```

```

Define [op_is_ = ε_] :=
Module [ {SD, ii, jj, kk, isp, nis, nisp, sis},
Block [ {i, j, k},
ReleaseHold [Hold [
SD [op_nisp, $k_Integer, Block [ {i, j, k}, op_isp, $k = ε;
op_nis, $k ]];
SD [op_isp, op [is], $k]; SD [op_sis_, op [sis]];
] /. {SD → SetDelayed,
isp → {is} /. {i → ii, j → jj, k → kk},
nis → {is} /. {i → ii, j → jj, k → kk},
nisp → {is} /. {i → ii_, j → jj_, k → kk_}
} ] ] ]

```

### The Fundamental Tensors

```

Define [am_i,j,k = IE [i,j] → {k} [ (α_i + α_j) a_k, (e^{-γ α_j} ξ_i + ξ_j) x_k, 1 ] $k,
bm_i,j,k = IE [i,j] → {k} [ (β_i + β_j) b_k, (η_i + η_j) y_k, e^{(e^{-β_i} - 1) η_j y_k} ] $k ]
Define [R_i,j =
IE [i,j] → {i,j} [ h a_j b_i, h x_j y_i, e^{(sum_{k=2}^{j+1} (1 - e^{γ e^h})^k (h y_i x_j)^k) / k (1 - e^{γ e^h})) } ] $k ]
Define [R_bar_i,j = IE [i,j] → {i,j} [ -h a_j b_i, -h x_j y_i / B_i,
1 + If [ $k == 0, 0, (R_bar [i,j], $k-1) $k [3] -
((R_bar [i,j], 0) $k R_{1,2} (R_bar [3,4], $k-1) $k) // (bm_{i,1-i} am_{j,2-j}) //
(bm_{i,3-i} am_{j,4+j}) [3] ] ],
P_i,j = IE [i,j] → {} [ β_i α_j / h, η_i ξ_j / h,
1 + If [ $k == 0, 0, (P [i,j], $k-1) $k [3] -
(R_{1,2} // ((P [3,j], 0) $k (P [i,2], $k-1) $k)) [3] ] ] ]
Define [a_Sj = R_bar_i,j ~ B_i ~ P_i,j,
a_bar_Si = IE [i] → {i} [ -a_i α_i, -x_i A_i ξ_i,
1 + If [ $k == 0, 0, (a_bar_S [i], $k-1) $k [3] -
((a_bar_S [i], 0) $k ~ B_i ~ a_Si ~ B_i ~ (a_bar_S [i], $k-1) $k) [3] ] ] ]
Define [b_Si = R_i,1 ~ B_1 ~ a_S1 ~ B_1 ~ P_i,1,
b_bar_Si = R_i,1 ~ B_1 ~ a_bar_S1 ~ B_1 ~ P_i,1,
aΔ_i,j,k = (R_{1,j} R_{2,k}) // bm_{1,2+3} // P_{3,i},
bΔ_i,j,k = (R_{j,1} R_{k,2}) // am_{1,2+3} // P_{i,3} ]

```

```

Define [
dm_i,j,k =
(IE [i,j] → {i,j} [ β_i b_i + α_j a_j, η_i y_i + ξ_j x_j, 1 ]
(aΔ_{i-1,2} // aΔ_{2+2,3} // a_bar_S3) (bΔ_{j-1,-2} // bΔ_{-2+2,-3}) //
(P_{-1,3} P_{-3,1} am_{2,j+k} bm_{i,-2+k}),
dSi = IE [i] → {1,2} [ β_i b_1 + α_i a_2, η_i y_1 + ξ_i x_2, 1 ] // (b_bar_S1 a_S2) //
dm_{2,1+i},
dΔ_i,j,k = (bΔ_{i-3,1} aΔ_{i-2,4}) // (dm_{3,4+k} dm_{1,2+j}) ]
Define [C_i = IE [i] → {i} [ 0, 0, B_i^{1/2} e^{-h e^{a_i/2}} ] $k,
C_bar_i = IE [i] → {i} [ 0, 0, B_i^{-1/2} e^{h e^{a_i/2}} ] $k,
Kink_i = (R_{1,3} C_2) // dm_{1,2+i} // dm_{1,3+i},
Kink_bar_i = (R_bar_{1,3} C_2) // dm_{1,2+i} // dm_{1,3+i} ]
Define [
b2t_i = IE [i] → {i} [ α_i a_i - β_i t_i / γ, ξ_i x_i + η_i y_i, e^{ε β_i a_i / γ} ] $k,
t2b_i = IE [i] → {i} [ α_i a_i - τ_i γ b_i, ξ_i x_i + η_i y_i, e^{ε τ_i a_i} ] $k ]
Define [kR_i,j = R_i,j // (b2t_i b2t_j) /. {t_i|j → t,
kR_bar_i,j = R_bar_i,j // (b2t_i b2t_j) /. {t_i|j → t, T_i|j → T},
km_i,j,k = (t2b_i t2b_j) // dm_{i,j+k} //
b2t_k /. {t_k → t, T_k → T, τ_i|j → 0},
kC_i = C_i // b2t_i /. T_i → T, kC_bar_i = C_bar_i // b2t_i /. T_i → T,
kKink_i = Kink_i // b2t_i /. {t_i → t, T_i → T},
kKink_bar_i = Kink_bar_i // b2t_i /. {t_i → t, T_i → T} ]

```

### The Trefoil

```

$K = 2; Z = kR_{1,5} kR_{6,2} kR_{3,7} kC_4 kKink_8 kKink_9 kKink_{10};
Do [Z = Z ~ B_{1,r} ~ km_{1,r+1}, {r, 2, 10}];
Simplify [Z /. v_{-1} → v
IE [i] → {1} [ 0, 0,
1 / (1 - T + T^2) + 1 / (1 - T + T^2)^3 T h (2 a (-1 + T - T^3 + T^4) +
T (-1 + 2 T - 3 T^2 + 2 T^3) γ - 2 (1 + T^3) x y γ h) ε +
1 / (2 (1 - T + T^2)^5) T h^2 (4 a^2 (1 - T + T^2)^2 (1 + T - 6 T^2 + T^3 + T^4) +
4 a (1 - T + T^2) γ (T (2 - 5 T + 8 T^2 - 7 T^3 - 2 T^4 + 2 T^5) -
2 (-1 - 2 T + 5 T^2 - 4 T^3 + T^4 + 2 T^5) x y h) +
γ^2 (T (1 - 2 T + 4 T^2 - 2 T^3 + 6 T^5 - 11 T^6 + 4 T^7) +
4 (-1 + 2 T + T^3 + T^4 + 2 T^6 - T^7) x y h +
6 (1 - T + T^2)^2 (1 + 3 T + T^2) x^2 y^2 h^2) ] ε^2 + 0 [ε]^3 ]

```

diagram	$n_k^+$ Today's $\rho_k^+$	Alexander's $\omega^+$ unknotting #	genus / ribbon unknotting # / amphi?	diagram	$n_k^+$ Today's $\rho_k^+$	Alexander's $\omega^+$ unknotting #	genus / ribbon unknotting # / amphi?	diagram	$n_k^+$ Today's $\rho_k^+$	Alexander's $\omega^+$ unknotting #	genus / ribbon unknotting # / amphi?
	$0_1^+$ 0	1	0 / ✓ 0 / ✓		$3_1^+$ $t$	$t - 1$	1 / ✗ 1 / ✗		$4_1^+$ 0	$3 - t$	1 / ✗ 1 / ✓
	$5_4^+$ $2t^3 + 3t$	$t^2 - t + 1$	2 / ✗ 2 / ✗		$5_2^+$ $5t - 4$	$2t - 3$	1 / ✗ 1 / ✗		$6_1^+$ $t - 4$	$5 - 2t$	1 / ✓ 1 / ✗
	$6_2^+$ $t^3 - 4t^2 + 4t - 4$	$-t^2 + 3t - 3$	2 / ✗ 1 / ✗		$6_3^+$ 0	$t^2 - 3t + 5$	2 / ✗ 1 / ✓		$7_1^+$ $3t^5 + 5t^3 + 6t$	$t^3 - t^2 + t - 1$	3 / ✗ 3 / ✗
	$7_2^+$ $14t - 16$	$3t - 5$	1 / ✗ 1 / ✗		$7_3^+$ $-9t^3 + 8t^2 - 16t + 12$	$2t^2 - 3t + 3$	2 / ✗ 2 / ✗		$7_4^+$ $32 - 24t$	$4t - 7$	1 / ✗ 2 / ✗
	$7_5^+$ $9t^3 - 16t^2 + 29t - 28$	$2t^2 - 4t + 5$	2 / ✗ 2 / ✗		$7_6^+$ $t^3 - 8t^2 + 19t - 20$	$-t^2 + 5t - 7$	2 / ✗ 1 / ✗		$7_7^+$ $8 - 3t$	$t^2 - 5t + 9$	2 / ✗ 1 / ✗
	$8_1^+$ $5t - 16$	$7 - 3t$	1 / ✗ 1 / ✗		$8_2^+$ $-2t^5 + 8t^4 + 10t^3 - 12t^2 + 13t - 12$	$-t^3 + 3t^2 - 3t + 3$	3 / ✗ 2 / ✗		$8_3^+$ 0	$9 - 4t$	1 / ✗ 2 / ✓
	$8_4^+$ $3t^3 - 8t^2 + 6t - 4$	$-2t^2 + 5t - 5$	2 / ✗ 2 / ✗		$8_5^+$ $-2t^5 + 8t^4 - 13t^3 + 20t^2 - 22t + 24$	$-t^3 + 3t^2 - 4t + 5$	3 / ✗ 2 / ✗		$8_6^+$ $5t^3 - 20t^2 + 28t - 32$	$-2t^2 + 6t - 7$	2 / ✗ 2 / ✗
	$8_7^+$ $-t^5 + 4t^4 - 10t^3 + 12t^2 - 13t + 12$	$t^3 - 3t^2 + 5t - 5$	3 / ✗ 1 / ✗		$8_8^+$ $-t^3 + 4t^2 - 12t + 16$	$2t^2 - 6t + 9$	2 / ✓ 2 / ✗		$8_9^+$ 0	$-t^3 + 3t^2 - 5t + 7$	3 / ✓ 1 / ✓
	$8_{10}^+$ $-t^5 + 4t^4 - 11t^3 + 16t^2 - 21t + 20$	$t^3 - 3t^2 + 6t - 7$	3 / ✗ 2 / ✗		$8_{11}^+$ $5t^3 - 24t^2 + 39t - 44$	$-2t^2 + 7t - 9$	2 / ✗ 1 / ✗		$8_{12}^+$ 0	$t^2 - 7t + 13$	2 / ✗ 2 / ✓
	$8_{13}^+$ $-t^3 + 4t^2 - 14t + 20$	$2t^2 - 7t + 11$	2 / ✗ 1 / ✗		$8_{14}^+$ $5t^3 - 28t^2 + 57t - 68$	$-2t^2 + 8t - 11$	2 / ✗ 1 / ✗		$8_{15}^+$ $21t^3 - 64t^2 + 120t - 140$	$3t^2 - 8t + 11$	2 / ✗ 2 / ✗
	$8_{16}^+$ $t^5 - 6t^4 + 17t^3 - 28t^2 + 35t - 36$	$t^3 - 4t^2 + 8t - 9$	3 / ✗ 2 / ✗		$8_{17}^+$ 0	$-t^3 + 4t^2 - 8t + 11$	3 / ✗ 1 / ✓		$8_{18}^+$ 0	$-t^3 + 5t^2 - 10t + 13$	3 / ✗ 2 / ✓
	$8_{19}^+$ $-3t^5 - 4t^2 - 3t$	$t^3 - t^2 + 1$	3 / ✗ 3 / ✗		$8_{20}^+$ $4t - 4$	$t^2 - 2t + 3$	2 / ✓ 1 / ✗		$8_{21}^+$ $t^3 - 8t^2 + 16t - 20$	$-t^2 + 4t - 5$	2 / ✓ 1 / ✗

# Do Not Turn Over Until Instructed



Dror Bar-Natan: Talks: MAASeway-1810:

Thanks for inviting me to the fall 2018 MAA Seaway Section meeting!

Handout, video, links at  $\omega\epsilon\beta$ :=<http://drorbn.net/maa18/>

## My Favourite First-Year Analysis Theorem

**Abstract.** Whatever it may be, it should say something useful and exciting and it should not be \*about\* rigour, yet it should \*demand\* rigour. You can't guess. You probably think it the dreariest. You are wrong.

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for every  $\epsilon > 0$  there is  $\delta > 0$  such that, for all  $x$ ,  
if  $0 < |x - a| < \delta$ , then  $|f(x) - f(a)| < \epsilon$ .

If  $f$  and  $g$  are continuous at  $a$ , then

- (1)  $f + g$  is continuous at  $a$ ,
- (2)  $f \cdot g$  is continuous at  $a$ .

If  $f$  is continuous on  $[a, b]$  and  $f(a) < 0 < f(b)$ , then there is some  $x$  in  $[a, b]$  such that  $f(x) = 0$ .

### 7 Three Hard Theorems.

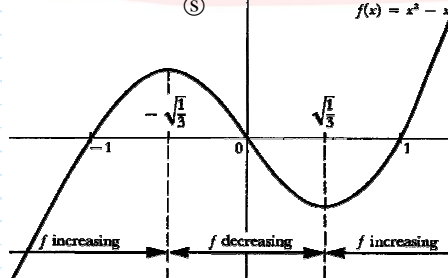
### 11 Significance of the Derivative.

$$y = x^2 - x$$

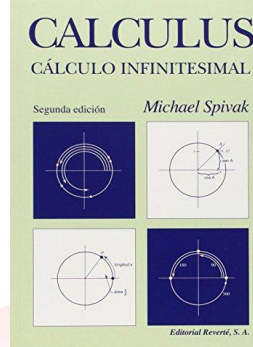
$$y' = 3x^2 - 1$$

$$= (\sqrt{3}x + 1)(\sqrt{3}x - 1)$$

$$= \begin{cases} > 0 & x > \sqrt{1/3} \\ < 0 & -\sqrt{1/3} < x < \sqrt{1/3} \\ > 0 & x < -\sqrt{1/3} \end{cases}$$



Several excerpts here are from Spivak's "Calculus" ©. I believe they fall under "fair use".



## 14 The Fundamental Theorem of Calculus.

If  $f$  is integrable on  $[a, b]$  and  $f = g'$  for some function  $g$ , then

$$\int_a^b f = g(b) - g(a).$$

### Tweets

### Tweets & replies

\*16  $\pi$  is Irrational.



Dror Bar-Natan @drorbarnatan · 2 Apr 2013

$\pi = a/b$ ,  $f(x) = x^n(a-bx)^n/n!$ ,  $n$  large  $\Rightarrow 0 < V = \int_0, \pi) f(x) \sin(x) dx < 1$ . Repeated integration by parts &  $f(x) = f(\pi - x) \Rightarrow V \in \mathbb{Z}$ . So  $\pi$  is irrational.



## 20 Approximation by Polynomial Functions.

Suppose that  $f$  is a function for which

$$f'(a), \dots, f^{(n)}(a)$$

all exist. Let

$$a_k = \frac{f^{(k)}(a)}{k!}, \quad 0 \leq k \leq n,$$

and define

$$P_{n,a}(x) = a_0 + a_1(x-a) + \dots + a_n(x-a)^n.$$

Then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x) - P_{n,a}(x)}{(x-a)^n} = 0.$$

For example for  $f(x) = \sin(x)$

at  $a = 0$ ,  $f^{(k)} = \sin, \cos, -\sin,$

$-\cos, \sin, \dots$ , so

$$a_k = \begin{cases} \frac{(-1)^{(k-1)/2}}{k!} & k \text{ odd} \\ 0 & k \text{ even} \end{cases}$$

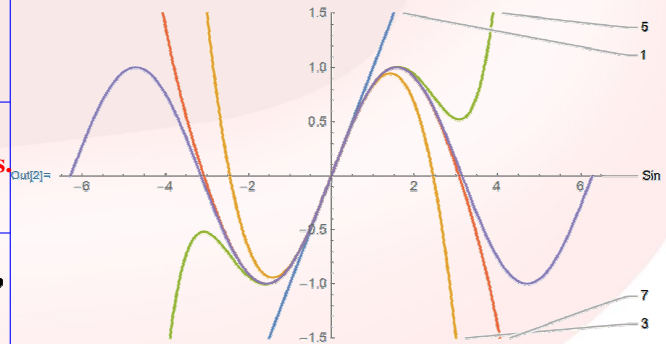
$$\text{In}[1] := \text{a}_k = \begin{cases} (-1)^{(k-1)/2}/k! & \text{OddQ}[k] \\ 0 & \text{EvenQ}[k] \end{cases};$$

Plot[Evaluate@Append[

$$\text{Table[Labeled[\sum_{k=0}^n \text{a}_k x^k, n], \{n, \{1, 3, 5, 7\}\}],$$

Labeled[Sin[x], Sin]

$$], \{x, -2\pi, 2\pi\}, \text{PlotRange} \rightarrow \{-1.5, 1.5\}]$$



$$\text{In}[3] := \text{Column@Table}[k \rightarrow N[\text{a}_k 157^k], \{k, \{0, 3, 9, 13, 29, 35, 157, 223, 457\}\}]$$

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\rightarrow 0. \\ 3 &\rightarrow -644982. \\ 9 &\rightarrow 1.59711 \times 10^{14} \\ 13 &\rightarrow 5.65477 \times 10^{18} \\ 29 &\rightarrow 5.42689 \times 10^{32} \\ 35 &\rightarrow -6.95433 \times 10^{36} \\ 157 &\rightarrow 4.86366 \times 10^{66} \\ 223 &\rightarrow -1.94045 \times 10^{61} \\ 457 &\rightarrow 4.87404 \times 10^{-10} \end{aligned}$$

Some sizes (in multiples of the diameter of a Hydrogen atom:

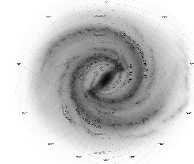
A red blood cell	$1.56 \times 10^5$
The CN Tower	$1.11 \times 10^{13}$
The rings of Saturn	$5.6 \times 10^{18}$
The Milky Way galaxy	$1.89 \times 10^{31}$
The observable universe	$1.76 \times 10^{37}$

$$\text{In}[4] := \left\{ N \left[ \sum_{k=0}^{457} \text{a}_k 157^k \right], \sum_{k=0}^{457} N[\text{a}_k 157^k] \right\}$$

$$\text{Out}[4] := \{-0.0795485, 5.10624 \times 10^{30}\}$$

$$\text{In}[5] := N \sin[157]$$

$$\text{Out}[5] := -0.0795485$$



# Do Not Turn Over Until Instructed

**The Taylor Remainder Formulas.** Let  $f$  be a smooth function, let  $P_{n,a}(x)$  be the  $n$ th order Taylor polynomial of  $f$  around  $a$  and evaluated at  $x$ , so with  $a_k = f^{(k)}(a)/k!$ ,

$$P_{n,a}(x) := \sum_{k=0}^n a_k(x-a)^k,$$

and let  $R_{n,a}(x) := f(x) - P_{n,a}(x)$  be the “mistake” or “remainder term”. Then

$$R_{n,a}(x) = \int_a^x dt \frac{f^{(n+1)}(t)}{n!} (x-t)^n, \quad (1)$$

or alternatively, for some  $t$  between  $a$  and  $x$ ,

$$R_{n,a}(x) = \frac{f^{(n+1)}(t)}{(n+1)!} (x-a)^{n+1}. \quad (2)$$

(In particular, the Taylor expansions of  $\sin$ ,  $\cos$ ,  $\exp$ , and of several other lovely functions converges to these functions *everywhere*, no matter the odds.)

**Proof of (1)** (for adults; I learned it from my son Itai). The fundamental theorem of calculus says that if  $g(a) = 0$  then  $g(x) = \int_a^x dx_1 g(x_1)$ . By design,  $R_{n,a}^{(k)}(a) = 0$  for  $0 \leq k \leq n$ . Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} R_{n,a}(x) &= \int_a^x dx_1 R'_{n,a}(x_1) \\ &= \int_a^x dx_1 \int_a^{x_1} dx_2 R''_{n,a}(x_2) \\ &= \dots = \int_a^x dx_1 \int_a^{x_1} dx_2 \dots \int_a^{x_n} dx_n \int_a^t dt R_{n,a}^{(n+1)}(t) \\ &= \int_a^x dx_1 \int_a^{x_1} dx_2 \dots \int_a^{x_n} dx_n \int_a^t dt f^{(n+1)}(t), \end{aligned}$$

when  $x > a$ , and with similar logic when  $x < a$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} &= \int_{a \leq t \leq x_n \leq \dots \leq x_1 \leq x} f^{(n+1)}(t) = \int_a^t dt f^{(n+1)}(t) \int_{t \leq x_n \leq \dots \leq x_1 \leq x} 1 \\ &= \int_a^t dt \frac{f^{(n+1)}(t)}{n!} \int_{(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in [t, x]^n} 1 = \int_a^x dt \frac{f^{(n+1)}(t)}{n!} (x-t)^n. \end{aligned}$$

**de-Fubini** (obfuscation in the name of simplicity). Prematurely aborting the above chain of equalities, we find that for any  $1 \leq k \leq n+1$ ,

$$R(x) = \int_a^x dt R^{(k)}(t) \frac{(x-t)^{k-1}}{(k-1)!}.$$

But these are easy to prove by induction using integration by parts, and there's no need to invoke Fubini.



Brook Taylor

**Partial Derivatives Commute.**

Make Fubini Smile Again!

If  $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is  $C^2$  near  $a \in \mathbb{R}^2$ , then  $f_{12}(a) = f_{21}(a)$ .

**Proof.** Let  $x \in \mathbb{R}^2$  be small, and let  $R := [a_1, a_1+x_1] \times [a_2, a_2+x_2]$ .

$$f_{12}(a) \sim \int_{\square} f_{12} = \sum_{\square} f = \int_{\square} f_{21} \sim f_{21}(a)$$

$$\begin{aligned} f_{12}(a) &\sim \frac{1}{|R|} \int_R f_{12} = \frac{1}{|R|} \int_{a_1}^{a_1+x_1} dt_1 (f_1(t_1, a_2+x_2) - f_1(t_1, a_2)) \\ &= \frac{1}{|R|} \left( f(a_1+x_1, a_2+x_2) - f(a_1+x_1, a_2) - f(a_1, a_2+x_2) + f(a_1, a_2) \right). \end{aligned}$$

But the answer here is the same as in

$$\begin{aligned} f_{21}(a) &\sim \frac{1}{|R|} \int_R f_{21} = \frac{1}{|R|} \int_{a_2}^{a_2+x_2} dt_2 (f_2(a_1+x_1, t_2) - f_2(a_1, t_2)) \\ &= \frac{1}{|R|} \left( f(a_1+x_1, a_2+x_2) - f(a_1, a_2+x_2) - f(a_1+x_1, a_2) + f(a_1, a_2) \right), \end{aligned}$$

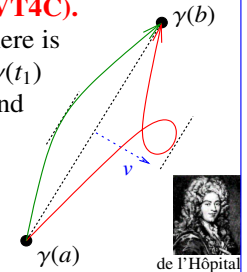
and both of these approximations get better and better as  $x \rightarrow 0$ .  $\square$

**The Mean Value Theorem for Curves (MVT4C).**

If  $\gamma: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  is a smooth curve, then there is some  $t_1 \in (a, b)$  for which  $\gamma(b) - \gamma(a)$  and  $\dot{\gamma}(t_1)$  are linearly dependent. If also  $\gamma(a) = 0$ , and

$\gamma = \begin{pmatrix} \xi \\ \eta \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\eta \neq 0 \neq \dot{\eta}$  on  $(a, b)$ , then

$$\frac{\xi(b)}{\eta(b)} = \frac{\xi(t_1)}{\dot{\eta}(t_1)} \quad \left( \text{when lucky, } = \frac{\ddot{\xi}(t_2)}{\ddot{\eta}(t_2)} \dots \right).$$



**Proof of (2).** Iterate the lucky MVT4C as follows:

$$\frac{R_{n,a}(x)}{(x-a)^{n+1}} = \frac{R'_{n,a}(t_1)}{(n+1)(t_1-a)^n} = \dots = \frac{R_{n,a}^{(n+1)}(t_{n+1})}{(n+1)!} = \frac{f^{(n+1)}(t)}{(n+1)!}.$$

$\pi$  is Irrational following Ivan Niven, Bull. Amer. Math. Soc. (1947) pp. 509:

**Theorem:**  $\pi$  is irrational.

**Proof:** Assume  $\pi = a/b$  and consider the polynomial  $P(x) = \frac{x^n(a-bx)^n}{n!}$  For  $n$  quite large. Clearly  $P(x)$  is positive yet small, hence  $I = \int_0^\pi P(x) \sin x dx < 1$ . On the other hand,  $I < 1$ . The second term is 0 because  $P$  is a polynomial of degree  $2n$ , and the first term is an integer for clearly  $P^{(k)}(0)$  is always an integer, for  $P(\pi-x) = P(x)$  hence same is true for  $P^{(k)}(\pi)$  and for  $\sin$  &  $\cos$  of 0 &  $\pi$  are all integers. Ergo  $I$  is an integer between 0 and 1, and these are rare indeed.  $\square$

space left blank for creative doodling





**The Yang-Baxter Technique.** Given an algebra  $U$  (typically  $\hat{U}(\mathfrak{g})$  or  $\hat{U}_q(\mathfrak{g})$ ) and elements  $R = \sum a_i \otimes b_i \in U \otimes U$  and  $C \in U$ , form  $Z = \sum_{i,j,k} C a_i b_j a_k C^2 b_i a_j b_k C$ .

**Problem.** Extract information from  $Z$ .

**The Dogma.** Use representation theory. In principle finite, but *slow*.

**Definition.** A “docile perturbed Gaussian” in the variables  $(z_i)_{i \in S}$  over the ring  $R$  is an expression of the form  $e^{q^{ij} z_i z_j} P = e^{q^{ij} z_i z_j} \left( \sum_{k \geq 0} \epsilon^k P_k \right)$ , where all coefficients are in  $R$  and where  $P$  is a “docile series”:  $\deg P_k \leq 4k$ .

**DOC·ile**  
 v' däsəl/ ⓘ  
 adjective  
 ready to accept control or instruction; submissive  
 “a cheap and docile workforce”

**Docility Matters!** The rank of the space of docile series to  $\epsilon^k$  is polynomial in the number of variables  $|S|$ .

**The (fake) moduli** of Lie algebras on  $V$ , a quadratic variety in  $(V^*)^{\otimes 2} \otimes V$  is on the right. We care about  $sl_{17}^\epsilon := sl_{17}^\epsilon / (\epsilon^{k+1} = 0)$ .

**Theorem** ([BNG], conjectured [MM], elucidated [Ro1]). Let  $J_d(K)$  be the coloured Jones polynomial of  $K$ , in the  $d$ -dimensional representation of  $sl_2$ . Writing

**Solvable Approximation.** A quantized universal enveloping algebra (aka “quantum group”) is an  $\infty$ -dimensional inverse limit.

untrimmed  $\rightarrow$  halfway-trimmed  $\rightarrow$  almost fully-trimmed

too hard  $\leftarrow$  “solvable approximation” (a parameter is hidden)  $\leftarrow$  “finite-type”

$\frac{(q^{1/2} - q^{-1/2}) J_d(K)}{q^{d/2} - q^{-d/2}} \Big|_{q=e^h} = \sum_{j,m \geq 0} a_{jm}(K) d^j h^m$ , “below diagonal” coefficients vanish,  $a_{jm}(K) = 0$  if  $j > m$ , and “on diagonal” coefficients give the inverse of the Alexander polynomial:  $(\sum_{m=0}^\infty a_{mm}(K) h^m) \cdot \omega(K)(e^h) = 1$ .

**Recomposing  $gl_n$ .** Half is enough!  $gl_n \oplus \mathfrak{a}_n = \mathcal{D}(\nabla, b, \delta)$ :

$b(\nabla) = b: \nabla \otimes \nabla \rightarrow \nabla$   
 $b(\triangleleft) \sim \delta: \nabla \rightarrow \nabla \otimes \nabla$

“Above diagonal” we have **Rozansky’s Theorem** [Ro3, (1.2)]:  $J_d(K)(q) = \frac{q^d - q^{-d}}{(q - q^{-1}) \omega(K)(q^d)} \left( 1 + \sum_{k=1}^\infty \frac{(q-1)^k \rho_k(K)(q^d)}{\omega^{2k}(K)(q^d)} \right)$ .

Now define  $gl_n^\epsilon := \mathcal{D}(\nabla, b, \epsilon \delta)$ . Schematically, this is  $[\nabla, \nabla] = \nabla$ ,  $[\triangleleft, \triangleleft] = \epsilon \triangleleft$ , and  $[\nabla, \triangleleft] = \triangleleft + \epsilon \nabla$ . In detail, it is

**Prior art.** Some amazing computations by Rozansky and Overbay in [Ro2, Ro3] and in [Ov].

$[e_{ij}, e_{kl}] = \delta_{jk} e_{il} - \delta_{il} e_{kj}$      $[f_{ij}, f_{kl}] = \epsilon \delta_{jk} f_{il} - \epsilon \delta_{il} f_{kj}$   
 $[e_{ij}, f_{kl}] = \delta_{jk} (\epsilon \delta_{i < k} e_{il} + \delta_{il} (h_j + \epsilon g_i) / 2 + \delta_{i > l} f_{il}) - \delta_{il} (\epsilon \delta_{k < j} e_{kj} + \delta_{kj} (h_j + \epsilon g_j) / 2 + \delta_{k > j} f_{kj})$   
 $[g_i, e_{jk}] = (\delta_{ij} - \delta_{ik}) e_{jk}$      $[h_i, e_{jk}] = \epsilon (\delta_{ij} - \delta_{ik}) e_{jk}$   
 $[g_i, f_{jk}] = (\delta_{ij} - \delta_{ik}) f_{jk}$      $[h_i, f_{jk}] = \epsilon (\delta_{ij} - \delta_{ik}) f_{jk}$

**Faddeev’s Formula** (In as much as we can tell, first appeared w/o proof in Faddeev [Fa], rediscovered and proven in Quesne [Qu], and again with easier proof, in Zagier [Za]). With  $[n]_q := \frac{q^n - 1}{q - 1}$ , with  $[n]_q! := [1]_q [2]_q \cdots [n]_q$  and with  $\mathfrak{e}_q^x := \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{x^n}{[n]_q!}$ , we have

**Solvable Approximation (2).** At  $\epsilon = 1$  and modulo  $h = g$ , the above is just  $gl_n$ . By rescaling at  $\epsilon \neq 0$ ,  $gl_n^\epsilon$  is independent of  $\epsilon$ . We let  $gl_n^k$  be  $gl_n^\epsilon$  regarded as an algebra over  $\mathbb{Q}[\epsilon] / \epsilon^{k+1} = 0$ . It is the “ $k$ -smidgen solvable approximation” of  $gl_n$ !

Recall that  $\mathfrak{g}$  is “solvable” if iterated commutators in it ultimately vanish:  $\mathfrak{g}_2 := [\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{g}]$ ,  $\mathfrak{g}_3 := [\mathfrak{g}_2, \mathfrak{g}_2]$ ,  $\dots$ ,  $\mathfrak{g}_d = 0$ . Equivalently, if it is a subalgebra of some large-size  $\nabla$  algebra.

**Note.** This whole process makes sense for arbitrary semi-simple Lie algebras.

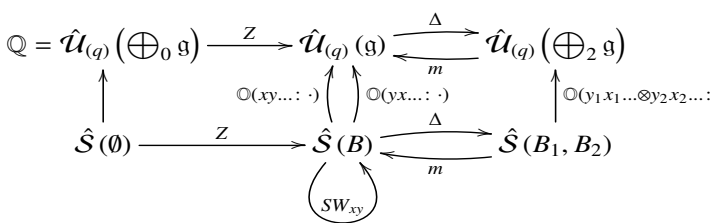
$\log \mathfrak{e}_q^x = \sum_{k \geq 1} \frac{(1-q)^k x^k}{k(1-q^k)} = x + \frac{(1-q)^2 x^2}{2(1-q^2)} + \dots$

**Proof.** We have that  $\mathfrak{e}_q^x = \frac{\mathfrak{e}_q^{qx} - \mathfrak{e}_q^x}{qx - x}$  (“the  $q$ -derivative of  $\mathfrak{e}_q^x$  is itself”), and hence  $\mathfrak{e}_q^{qx} = (1 + (1-q)x) \mathfrak{e}_q^x$ , and  $\log \mathfrak{e}_q^{qx} = \log(1 + (1-q)x) + \log \mathfrak{e}_q^x$ .

Writing  $\log \mathfrak{e}_q^x = \sum_{k \geq 1} a_k x^k$  and comparing powers of  $x$ , we get  $q^k a_k = -(1-q)^k / k + a_k$ , or  $a_k = \frac{(1-q)^k}{k(1-q^k)}$ .  $\square$

**GDO-Categories.** Given  $\mathfrak{g}$  with basis  $B = \{x, y, \dots\}$ , consider the following diagram:

**Aside.** “Consolidate” means “give a finite name to an infinite object, and figure out how to sufficiently manipulate such finite names”. E.g., solving  $f'' = -f$  we encounter and set  $\sum \frac{(-1)^k x^{2k}}{(2k)!} \rightsquigarrow \cos x$ ,  $\sum \frac{(-1)^k x^{2k+1}}{(2k+1)!} \rightsquigarrow \sin x$ , and then  $\cos^2 x + \sin^2 x = 1$  and  $\sin(x+y) = \sin x \cos y + \cos x \sin y$ .



**The Composition Law.** If  $S(B_0) \xrightarrow{f} S(B_1) \xrightarrow{g} S(B_2)$  then  ${}^t(f \parallel g) = {}^t(g \circ f) = \left( g|_{\zeta_{1j} \rightarrow \partial_{z_{1j}}} f \right)_{z_{1j}=0}$ .

Hence  $Z$ ,  $SW_{xy}$ ,  $m$ ,  $\Delta$ , (and likewise  $S$  and  $\theta$ ) are morphisms in the completion of the monoidal category  $\mathcal{F}$  whose objects are finite sets  $B$  and whose morphisms are  $\text{mor}_{\mathcal{F}}(B, B') := \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Q}}(S(B) \rightarrow S(B')) = S(B^*, B')$  (by convention,  $x^* = \xi$ ,  $y^* = \eta$ , etc.). Ergo we need to *consolidate* (at least parts of) said completion.

**Examples.**  
 1. The 1-variable identity map  $I: S(z) \rightarrow S(z)$  is given by  ${}^t I_1 = \mathfrak{e}^{z^2}$  and the  $n$ -variable one by  ${}^t I_n = \mathfrak{e}^{z_1 \zeta_1 + \dots + z_n \zeta_n}$ .

- The “ $z_i \rightarrow z_j$  variable rename map  $\sigma_j^i: \mathcal{S}(z_i) \rightarrow \mathcal{S}(z_j)$  becomes  ${}^i\sigma_j^i = \mathbb{E}^{z_j^i}$ , and it’s easy to rename several variables simultaneously.
- The “archetypal multiplication map  $m_k^{ij}: \mathcal{S}(z_i, z_j) \rightarrow \mathcal{S}(z_k)$ ” has  ${}^i m = \mathbb{E}^{z_k(\zeta_i+\zeta_j)}$ .
- The “archetypal coproduct  $\Delta_{jk}^i: \mathcal{S}(z_i) \rightarrow \mathcal{S}(z_j, z_k)$ ”, given by  $z_i \rightarrow z_j + z_k$  or  $\Delta z = z \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes z$ , has  ${}^i \Delta = \mathbb{E}^{(z_j+z_k)\zeta_i}$ .
- $R$ -matrices tend to have terms of the form  $\mathbb{E}_q^{h y_1 x_2} \in \mathcal{U}_q \otimes \mathcal{U}_q$ . The “baby  $R$ -matrix” is  ${}^i R = \mathbb{E}^{h y x} \in \mathcal{S}(y, x)$ .

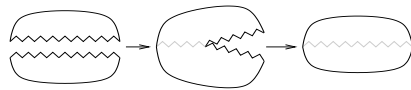
**Proposition.** If  $F: \mathcal{S}(B) \rightarrow \mathcal{S}(B')$  is linear and “continuous”, then  ${}^i F = \exp(\sum_{z_i \in B} \zeta_i z_i) // F$ .

**The Heisenberg Example.** The “Weyl form of the canonical commutation relations” states that if  $[y, x] = t$  and  $t$  is central, then  $\mathbb{E}^{\xi x} \mathbb{E}^{\eta y} = \mathbb{E}^{\eta y} \mathbb{E}^{\xi x} e^{-\eta \xi t}$ . Thus with

$$SW_{xy} \left( \begin{array}{c} \mathcal{S}(t, y, x) \\ \xrightarrow{\mathbb{O}_{xy}} \mathcal{U}(t, y, x) \\ \xleftarrow{\mathbb{O}_{yx}} \end{array} \right)$$

we have  ${}^i SW_{xy} = \mathbb{E}^{\tau t + \eta y + \xi x - \eta \xi t}$ .

**The Zipping Issue** (between unbound and bound lies half-zipped).



**Zipping.** If  $P(\zeta^j, z_i)$  is a polynomial, or whenever otherwise convergent, set

$$\langle P(\zeta^j, z_i) \rangle_{(\zeta^j)} = P(\partial_{z_j}, z_i) \Big|_{z_i=0}.$$

(E.g., if  $P = \sum a_{nm} \zeta^n z^m$  then  $\langle P \rangle_{\zeta} = \sum n! a_{nm}$ ).

**The Zipping / Contraction Theorem.** If  $P$  has a finite  $\zeta$ -degree and the  $y$ ’s and the  $q$ ’s are “small” then

$$\langle P(z_i, \zeta^j) \mathbb{E}^{\eta^i z_i + y_j \zeta^j} \rangle_{(\zeta^j)} = \langle P(z_i + y_i, \zeta^j) \mathbb{E}^{\eta^j (z_i + y_i)} \rangle_{(\zeta^j)},$$

(proof: replace  $y_j \rightarrow \hbar y_j$  and test at  $\hbar = 0$  and at  $\partial_{\hbar}$ ), and

$$\begin{aligned} & \left\langle P(z_i, \zeta^j) \mathbb{E}^{c + \eta^i z_i + y_j \zeta^j + q_j^i z_i \zeta^j} \right\rangle_{(\zeta^j)} \\ &= \det(\tilde{q}) \left\langle P(\tilde{q}_i^k (z_k + y_k), \zeta^j) \mathbb{E}^{c + \eta^i \tilde{q}_i^k (z_k + y_k)} \right\rangle_{(\zeta^j)} \end{aligned}$$

where  $\tilde{q}$  is the inverse matrix of  $1 - q$ :  $(\delta_j^i - q_j^i) \tilde{q}_k^j = \delta_k^i$  (proof: replace  $q_j^i \rightarrow \hbar q_j^i$  and test at  $\hbar = 0$  and at  $\partial_{\hbar}$ ).

**Implementation.**  $\omega \in \beta / \text{ZipBindDemo}$

```

Kδ /: Kδ_{i,j} := If[i === j, 1, 0];
{z*, x*, y*} = {ξ, ε, η}; {ξ*, ε*, η*} = {z, x, y};
(u_{-i})* := (u*)_i;
Zip_{[]} [P_] := P;
Zip_{(ξ, ε, η)} [P_] :=
(Expand[P // Zip_{(ξ, ε, η)}] /. f_{-} . ξ^{d_{-}} .> ∂_{(ξ*, ε*, η*)} f) /. ξ* → 0
Zip_{(ξ)} [(a ξ^6 + ξ + 3) (z^5 e^z + 7 z) + 99 b]
7 + 720 a + 99 b
Zip_{(ξ, η)} [ξ^3 η^3 e^{ax+by+cx}]
a^3 b^3 + 9 a^2 b^2 c + 18 a b c^2 + 6 c^3
(* E[Q,P] means e^{QP} *)
E /: Zip_{(ξ, ε, η)} @E[Q_, P_] :=
Module[{ξ, z, zs, c, ys, ηs, qt, zrule, Q1, Q2},
zs = Table[ξ*, {ξ, ξs}];
c = Q /. Alternatives @@ (ξs ∪ zs) → 0;
ys = Table[∂_ξ (Q /. Alternatives @@ zs → 0), {ξ, ξs}];
ηs = Table[∂_z (Q /. Alternatives @@ ξs → 0), {z, zs}];
qt = Inverse@Table[Kδ_{z,ξ*} - ∂_{z,ξ} Q, {ξ, ξs}, {z, zs}];
zrule = Thread[zs → qt. (zs + ys)];
Q1 = c + ηs.zs /. zrule;
Q2 = Q1 /. Alternatives @@ zs → 0;
Simplify /@ E[Q2, Det[qt] e^{-Q2} Zip_{(ξ)} [e^{Q1} (P /. zrule)]];

```

$$Eh = \mathbb{E} \left[ \hbar \sum_{i=1}^3 \sum_{j=1}^3 a_{10\ i+j} x_i \xi_j, \sum_{i=1}^3 f_i [x_1, x_2, x_3] \xi_i \right];$$

$$E1 = Eh /. \hbar \rightarrow 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{E} [a_{11} x_1 \xi_1 + a_{21} x_2 \xi_1 + a_{31} x_3 \xi_1 + a_{12} x_1 \xi_2 + \\ & a_{22} x_2 \xi_2 + a_{32} x_3 \xi_2 + a_{13} x_1 \xi_3 + a_{23} x_2 \xi_3 + a_{33} x_3 \xi_3, \\ & \xi_1 f_1 [x_1, x_2, x_3] + \xi_2 f_2 [x_1, x_2, x_3] + \xi_3 f_3 [x_1, x_2, x_3]] \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Short}[lhs = \text{Zip}_{(\xi_1, \xi_2)} @E1, 5]$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{E} \left[ ((a_{13} ((-1 + a_{22}) a_{31} - a_{21} a_{32}) + a_{12} (-a_{23} a_{31} + a_{21} a_{33}) + \right. \\ & (-1 + a_{11}) (a_{23} a_{32} - (-1 + a_{22}) a_{33})) x_3 \xi_3) / \\ & (-1 + a_{12} a_{21} - a_{11} (-1 + a_{22}) + a_{22}), \\ & \left. \frac{\llcorner 17 \gg + a_{21} \llcorner 1 \gg}{(-1 + a_{12} a_{21} - a_{11} (-1 + a_{22}) + a_{22})^2} \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$lhs == \text{Zip}_{(\xi_1)} @ \text{Zip}_{(\xi_2)} @ E1 == \text{Zip}_{(\xi_2)} @ \text{Zip}_{(\xi_1)} @ E1$$

True

Short[

$$lhs = \text{Normal}[Eh /. \mathbb{E}[Q_, P_] \rightarrow \text{Series}[P e^Q, \{h, 0, 3\}]] // \text{Zip}_{(\xi_1, \xi_2)}, 5]$$

$$\begin{aligned} & h a_{13} \xi_3 f_1 [0, 0, x_3] + 2 h^2 a_{11} a_{13} \xi_3 f_1 [0, 0, x_3] + \\ & 3 h^3 a_{11}^2 a_{13} \xi_3 f_1 [0, 0, x_3] + 2 h^3 a_{12} a_{13} a_{21} \xi_3 f_1 [0, 0, x_3] + \\ & h^2 a_{13} a_{22} \xi_3 f_1 [0, 0, x_3] + \llcorner 337 \gg + \\ & \frac{1}{6} h^3 a_{31}^3 x_3^3 \xi_3 f_3^{(3,0,0)} [0, 0, x_3] + \frac{1}{2} h^3 a_{31}^2 a_{32} x_3^3 f_1^{(3,1,0)} [0, 0, x_3] + \\ & \frac{1}{6} h^3 a_{31}^3 x_3^3 f_2^{(3,1,0)} [0, 0, x_3] + \frac{1}{6} h^3 a_{31}^3 x_3^3 f_1^{(4,0,0)} [0, 0, x_3] \end{aligned}$$

rhs =

$$\text{Normal}[\text{Zip}_{(\xi_1, \xi_2)} @ Eh /. \mathbb{E}[Q_, P_] \rightarrow \text{Series}[P e^Q, \{h, 0, 3\}]];$$

Simplify[lhs == rhs]

True

$$E /: \mathbb{E}[Q1_, P1_] \mathbb{E}[Q2_, P2_] := \mathbb{E}[Q1 + Q2, P1 * P2];$$

$$\text{Bind}_{\xi_s, \text{List}} [L_{-E}, R_{-E}] := \text{Module}[\{n, \text{hide}\xi_s, \text{hide}z_s\},$$

$$\text{hide}\xi_s = \text{Table}[\xi_s[\text{i}] \rightarrow \xi_{\text{nei}}, \{\text{i}, \text{Length}@\xi_s\}];$$

$$\text{hide}z_s = \text{Table}[\xi_s[\text{i}]^* \rightarrow z_{\text{nei}}, \{\text{i}, \text{Length}@\xi_s\}];$$

$$\text{Zip}_{\xi_s, \text{hide}\xi_s} [L /. \text{hide}z_s] (R /. \text{hide}\xi_s)];$$

$$\text{Bind}_{(\xi_2)} [\mathbb{E}[\xi (x_1 + x_2), 1], \mathbb{E}[\xi_2 (x_2 + x_3), 1]]$$

$$\mathbb{E}[\xi (x_1 + x_2 + x_3), 1]$$

$$\text{Bind}_{(\xi_2)} [\mathbb{E}[(\xi_2 + \xi_3) x_2, 1], \mathbb{E}[(\xi_1 + \xi_2) x, 1]]$$

$$\mathbb{E}[x (\xi_1 + \xi_2 + \xi_3), 1]$$

**The 2D Lie Algebra.** Clever people know\* that if  $[a, x] = \gamma x$  then  $\mathbb{E}^{\xi x} \mathbb{E}^{a a} = \mathbb{E}^{a a} \mathbb{E}^{-\gamma a} \xi x$ . Ergo with

$$SW_{ax} \left( \begin{array}{c} \mathcal{S}(a, x) \\ \xrightarrow{\mathbb{O}_{ax}} \mathcal{U}(a, x) \\ \xleftarrow{\mathbb{O}_{xa}} \end{array} \right)$$

we have  ${}^i SW_{ax} = \mathbb{E}^{a a + \mathbb{E}^{-\gamma a} \xi x}$ .

\* Indeed  $xa = (a - \gamma)x$  thus  $xa^n = (a - \gamma)^n x$  thus  $x e^{a a} = e^{(a - \gamma) a} x = e^{-\gamma a} e^{a a} x$  thus  $x^n e^{a a} = e^{a a} (e^{-\gamma a})^n x^n$  thus  $\mathbb{E}^{\xi x} e^{a a} = e^{a a} \mathbb{E}^{-\gamma a} \xi x$ .

**The Real Thing.** In  $QU/(\epsilon^2 = 0)$  over  $\mathbb{Q}[[\hbar]]$  using the  $yax$  order,  $T = e^{\hbar t}$ ,  $\bar{T} = T^{-1}$ ,  $\mathcal{A} = \mathbb{E}^{\gamma a}$ , and  $\bar{\mathcal{A}} = \mathcal{A}^{-1}$ , we have

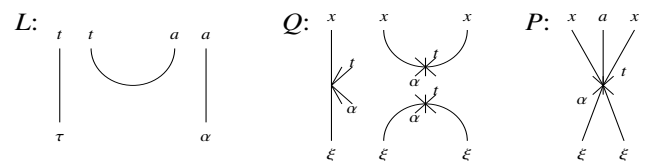
$${}^i R_{ij} = \mathbb{E}^{\hbar(\gamma_i x_j - \eta_i a_j / \gamma)} (1 + \epsilon \hbar (a_i a_j / \gamma - \gamma \hbar^2 y_i^2 x_j^2 / 4))$$

in  $\mathcal{S}(B_i, B_j)$ , and in  $\mathcal{S}(B_1^*, B_2^*, B)$  we have

$${}^i m = \mathbb{E}^{(\alpha_1 + \alpha_2) a + \eta_2 \xi_1 (1 - T) / \hbar + (\xi_1 \bar{\mathcal{A}}_2 + \xi_2) x + (\eta_1 + \eta_2 \bar{\mathcal{A}}_1) y} (1 + \epsilon \lambda_m),$$

where  $\lambda_m = \frac{2a\eta_2 \xi_1 T + \frac{1}{4} \gamma \eta_2^2 \xi_1^2 (3T^2 - 4T + 1) / \hbar - \frac{1}{2} \gamma \eta_2 \xi_1^2 (3T - 1) x \bar{\mathcal{A}}_2 - \frac{1}{2} \gamma \eta_2^2 \xi_1 (3T - 1) y \bar{\mathcal{A}}_1 + \gamma \eta_2 \xi_1 x y \hbar \bar{\mathcal{A}}_1 \bar{\mathcal{A}}_2}$ . Similar formulas delight us for  ${}^i \Delta$  and  ${}^i S$ .

**A generic morphism.**



**Implementation.**

```
QZip_εs_List_simp @E[L_, Q_, P_] :=
Module[{ε, z, zs, c, ys, ηs, qt, zrule, Q1, Q2},
zs = Table[ε^i, {ε, εs}];
c = Q /. Alternatives @@ (εs ∪ zs) → 0;
ys = Table[∂_ε(Q /. Alternatives @@ zs → 0), {ε, εs}];
ηs = Table[∂_z(Q /. Alternatives @@ εs → 0), {z, zs}];
qt = Inverse@Table[Kδ_{z,c} - ∂_{z,c}Q, {ε, εs}, {z, zs}];
zrule = Thread[zs → qt.(zs + ys)];
Q2 = (Q1 = c + ηs.zs /. zrule) /. Alternatives @@ zs → 0;
simp /@ E[L, Q2, Det[qt] e^{-Q2} Zip_εs[e^{Q1} (P /. zrule)]];
QZip_εs_List := QZip_εs_Cf;
```

```
LZip_εs_List_simp @E[L_, Q_, P_] :=
Module[{ε, z, zs, c, ys, ηs, lt, zrule, L1, L2, Q1, Q2},
zs = Table[ε^i, {ε, εs}];
c = L /. Alternatives @@ (εs ∪ zs) → 0;
ys = Table[∂_ε(L /. Alternatives @@ zs → 0), {ε, εs}];
ηs = Table[∂_z(L /. Alternatives @@ εs → 0), {z, zs}];
lt = Inverse@Table[Kδ_{z,c} - ∂_{z,c}L, {ε, εs}, {z, zs}];
zrule = Thread[zs → lt.(zs + ys)];
L2 = (L1 = c + ηs.zs /. zrule) /. Alternatives @@ zs → 0;
Q2 = (Q1 = Q /. T2t /. zrule) /. Alternatives @@ zs → 0;
simp /@
E[L2, Q2, Det[lt] e^{-L2-Q2}
Zip_εs[e^{L1+Q1} (P /. T2t /. zrule)]];
LZip_εs_List := LZip_εs_Cf;
```

```
Bind({L_, R_} := L R;
Bind[{is_...}[L_E, R_E] := Module[{n},
Times[
L /. Table[{v : T | t | a | x | y}_i → v_{noi}, {i, {is}}],
R /. Table[{v : ε | α | ξ | η}_i → v_{noi}, {i, {is}}]
] // LZ1PratteneTable[{ε_{noi}, v_{noi}}, {i, {is}}] //
QZip1PratteneTable[{ε_{noi}, v_{noi}}, {i, {is}}];
B_L_List := Bind_L; B_E_List := Bind_E;
Bind[is_] := is;
Bind[L_S_, εs_List, R_] := Bind_εs[Bind[L_S], R];
```

**A Partial To Do List.**

- Complete all “docility” arguments by identifying a “contained” docile substructure.
- Understand denominators and get rid of them.
- See if much can be gained by including  $P$  in the exponential:  $\mathbb{Q}^{L+Q}P \rightsquigarrow \mathbb{Q}^{L+Q+P}$ ?
- Clean the program and make it efficient.
- Run it for all small knots and links, at  $k = 2, 3$ .
- Understand the centre and figure out how to read the output.
- Execute the Drinfel’d double procedure at  $\mathbb{E}$ -level (and thus get rid of DeclareAlgebra and all that is around it!).
- Extend to  $sl_3$  and beyond.
- Do everything with Zip and Bind as the fundamentals, without ever referring back to (quantized) Lie algebras.

**References.**

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**The Complete Implementation.**

ωεβ/SL2Portfolio

An even fuller implementation is at ωεβ/FullImp.

**Initialization / Utilities**

```
$p = 2; $k = 1; $U = QU; $E := {$k, $p};
$trim := {h^{p-} /; p > $p → 0, ε^{k-} /; k > $k → 0};
qh = e^{y e^h};
T2t = {T_{i-}^{p-} → e^{p h t}_i, T_{i-}^{p-} → e^{p h t}_i};
t2T = {e^{c- t_i + b-} → T_{i-}^c/h e^b, e^{c- t_i + b-} → T_{i-}^c/h e^b, e^{ε-} → e^{Expand[ε]}};
SetAttributes[SS, HoldAll];
SS[ε_, op_] := Collect[
Normal@Series[If[$p > 0, ε, ε /. T2t], {h, 0, $p}],
h, op];
SS[ε_] := SS[ε, Together];
Simp[ε_, op_] := Collect[ε, _CU | _QU, op];
Simp[ε_] := Simp[ε, SS[#, Expand] &];
Kδ /: Kδ_{i,j} := If[i === j, 1, 0];
c_Integer_k_Integer := c + 0[e]^{k+1};
```

- Prove a genus bound and a Seifert formula.
- Obtain “Gauss-Gassner formulas” (ωεβ/NCSU).
- Relate with Melvin-Morton-Rozansky and with Rozansky-Overbay.
- Understand the braid group representations that arise.
- Find a topological interpretation. The Garoufalidis-Rozansky “loop expansion” [GR]?
- Figure out the action of the Cartan automorphism.
- Disprove the ribbon-slice conjecture!
- Figure out the action of the Weyl group.
- Do everything at the “arrow diagram” level of finite-type invariants of (rotational) virtual tangles.
- What else can you do with the “solvable approximations”?
- And with the “Gaussian zip and bind” technology?

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```
CF[ε_] := ExpandDenominator@
ExpandNumerator@
Together[Expand[ε] /. e^x e^y → e^{x+y} /. e^x → e^{CF[x]}];
Unprotect[SeriesData];
SeriesData /: CF[sd_SeriesData] := MapAt[CF, sd, 3];
SeriesData /: Expand[sd_SeriesData] :=
MapAt[Expand, sd, 3];
SeriesData /: Simplify[sd_SeriesData] :=
MapAt[Simplify, sd, 3];
SeriesData /: Together[sd_SeriesData] :=
MapAt[Together, sd, 3];
SeriesData /: Collect[sd_SeriesData, specs_] :=
MapAt[Collect[#, specs] &, sd, 3];
Protect[SeriesData];
```

**DeclareAlgebra**

```

Unprotect[NonCommutativeMultiply];
Attributes[NonCommutativeMultiply] = {};
(NCM = NonCommutativeMultiply)[x_] := x;
NCM[x_, y_, z_] := (x ** y) ** z;
0 ** _ = _ ** 0 = 0;
(x_Plus) ** y_ := (# ** y) & /@ x;
x_ ** (y_Plus) := (x ** #) & /@ y;
B[x_, x_] = 0; B[x_, y_] := x ** y - y ** x;
B[x_, y_, e_] := B[x, y, e] = B[x, y];
DeclareAlgebra[U_Symbol, opts_Rule] :=
Module[{gp, sr, g, cp, M, CE, k = 0,
  gs = Generators /. {opts},
  cs = Centrals /. {opts} /. Centrals -> {}},
  (#u = U@#) & /@ gs;
  gp = Alternatives @@ gs; gp = gp | gp; (* gens *)
  sr = Flatten@Table[{g -> ++k, gi -> {i, k}}, {g, gs}];
  (* sorting -> *)
  cp = Alternatives @@ cs; (* cents *)
  SetAttributes[M, HoldRest]; M[0, _] = 0;
  M[a_, x_] := a x;
  CE[_] := Collect[_] /. $trim;
  U_i[_] := _ /. {t : cp -> t_i, u_U -> (#i &) /@ u};
  U_i[NCM[]] = U@{} = 1_U = U[];
  B[U@(x_)_i, U@(y_)_i] := U_i@B[U@x, U@y];
  B[U@(x_)_i, U@(y_)_j] /; i != j := 0;
  B[U@y_, U@x_] := CE[-B[U@x, U@y]];
  x_ ** (c_. 1_U) := CE[c x]; (c_. 1_U) ** x_ := CE[c x];
  (a_. U[xx___, x_] ** (b_. U[y_, yy___])) :=
  If[OrderedQ[{x, y} /. sr],
    CE[M[a b /. $trim, U[xx, x, y, yy]],
      U@xx **
      CE[M[a b /. $trim, U@y ** U@x + B[U@x, U@y, $E]] **
      U@yy];
  U@{c_. * (L : gp)^n_, r___} /; FreeQ[c, gp] :=
  CE[c U@Table[L, {n}] ** U@{r}];
  U@{c_. * L : gp, r___} := CE[c U[L] ** U@{r}];
  U@{c_, r___} /; FreeQ[c, gp] := CE[c U@{r}];
  U@{L_Plus, r___} := CE[U@{#, r} & /@ L];
  U@{L_, r___} := U@{Expand[L], r};
  U[_NonCommutativeMultiply] := U /@ _;
  OU[specs___, poly_] := Module[{sp, null, vs, us},
    sp = Replace[{specs}, L_List -> Lnull, {1}];
    vs = Join@@(First /@ sp);
    us = Join@@(sp /. L_s -> (L /. x_i -> x_s));
    CE[Total[
      CoefficientRules[poly, vs] /. (p_ -> c_) -> c U@(us^p)
    ] /. x_null -> x];
  OU[specs___, E[L_, Q_, P_]] :=
  OU[specs, SS@Normal[P e^{+Q}]];
  sigma_rs__[c_. * u_U] :=
  (c /. (t : cp)_j -> t_j /. {rs}) U[List@@(u /. v_j -> v_j /. {rs})];
  m_j_to_k_[c_. * u_U] :=
  CE[ ((c /. (t : cp)_j -> t_k) DeleteCases[u, _j|k]) **
  U@@Cases[u, w_j -> w_k] ** U@@Cases[u, _k] ];
  U /; c_. * u_U * v_U := CE[c u ** v];
  S_i[c_. * u_U] :=
  CE[ ((c /. S_i[U, Centrals]) DeleteCases[u, _i]) **
  U_i[NCM@@Reverse@Cases[u, x_i -> S@U@x] ] ];
  Delta_i_to_j_k_[c_. * u_U] :=
  CE[ ((c /. Delta_i_to_j_k_[U, Centrals]) DeleteCases[u, _i]) **
  (NCM@@Cases[u, x_i -> sigma_{1->j, 2->k}@Delta@U@x] /.
  NCM[] -> U[]) ] ];

```

## DeclareMorphism

```

DeclareMorphism[m_, U_ -> V_, ongs_List, oncs_List: {}] := (
  Replace[ongs, {(g_ -> img_) -> (m[U[g]] = img),
    (g_ -> img_) -> (m[U[g]] := img /. $trim)}, {1}];
  m[1_U] = 1_V;
  m[U[g_i_]] := V_i[m[U@g]];
  m[U[vs___]] := NCM@@(m /@ U /@ {vs});
  m[_] := Simp[_] /. oncs /. u_U -> m[u] /. $trim; )

```

## Meta-Operations

```

sigma_rs__[E_Plus] := sigma_rs /@ E;
m_j_to_j_ = Identity; m_j_to_k_[0] = 0;
m_j_to_k_[E_Plus] := Simp[m_j_to_k_ /@ E];
m_i_s___, i_, j_to_k_[E_] := m_j_to_k_@m_i_s, i -> E;
S_i[E_Plus] := Simp[S_i /@ E];
Delta_i_s__[E_Plus] := Simp[Delta_i_s /@ E];

```

## Implementing CU = U(sl\_2^E)

```

DeclareAlgebra[CU, Generators -> {y, a, x}, Centrals -> {t}];
B[a_CU, y_CU] = -y y_CU; B[x_CU, a_CU] = -y x_CU;
B[x_CU, y_CU] = 2 e a_CU - t 1_CU;
(S@y_CU = -y_CU; S@a_CU = -a_CU; S@x_CU = -x_CU);
S_i[CU, Centrals] = {t_i -> -t_i};
Delta@y_CU = CU@y_1 + CU@y_2; Delta@a_CU = CU@a_1 + CU@a_2;
Delta@x_CU = CU@x_1 + CU@x_2;
Delta_i_to_j_k_[CU, Centrals] = {t_i -> t_j + t_k};

```

## Implementing QU = U\_q(sl\_2^E)

```

DeclareAlgebra[QU, Generators -> {y, a, x},
  Centrals -> {t, T}];
B[a_QU, y_QU] = -y y_QU; B[x_QU, a_QU] = -y QU@x;
B[x_QU, y_QU] := SS[q_h - 1] QU@{y, x} +
  O_QU[{a}, SS[(1 - T e^{-2 e a h}) / h]];
(S@y_QU := O_QU[{a, y}, SS[-T^{-1} e^{h e a} y]]; S@a_QU = -a_QU;
  S@x_QU := O_QU[{a, x}, SS[-e^{h e a} x]]);
S_i[QU, Centrals] = {t_i -> -t_i, T_i -> T_i^{-1}};
Delta@y_QU := O_QU[{y_1, a_1}_1, {y_2}_2, SS[y_1 + T_1 e^{-h e a_1} y_2]];
Delta@a_QU = QU@a_1 + QU@a_2;
Delta@x_QU := O_QU[{a_1, x_1}_1, {x_2}_2, SS[x_1 + e^{-h e a_1} x_2]];
Delta_i_to_j_k_[QU, Centrals] = {t_i -> t_j + t_k, T_i -> T_j T_k};

```

## The representation rho

```

rho@y_CU = rho@y_QU = ( 0 0
                      e 0 ); rho@a_CU = rho@a_QU = ( y 0
                                                       0 0 );
rho@x_CU = ( 0 y
             0 0 ); rho@x_QU = ( 0 (1 - e^{-y e h}) / (e h)
                                 0 0 );
rho[e^E] := MatrixExp[rho[E]];
rho[E_] :=
  (E /. T2t /. t -> y e /.
  (U : CU | QU) [u___] -> Fold[Dot, ( 1 0
                                       0 1 ), rho /@ U /@ {u} ] ]

```

## tSW

Goal. In either  $U$ , compute  $F = e^{-\eta y} e^{\xi x} e^{\eta y} e^{-\xi x}$ . First compute  $G = e^{\xi x} y e^{-\xi x}$ , a finite sum. Now  $F$  satisfies the ODE  $\partial_\eta F = \partial_\eta (e^{-\eta y} e^{\eta G}) = -yF + FG$  with initial conditions  $F(\eta = 0) = 1$ . So we set it up and solve:

```

SWxy[U_, kk_] :=
SWxy[U, kk] = Block[{ $U = U, $k = kk, $p = kk },
Module[{ G, F, fs, f, bs, e, b, es },
G = Simp[Table[ξk/k!, {k, 0, $k + 1}].
NestList[Simp[B[xU, #]] &, yU, $k + 1];
fs = Flatten@Table[f1,i,j,k[η], {1, 0, $k}, {i, 0, 1},
{j, 0, 1}, {k, 0, 1}];
F = fs.(bs = fs /. fl,i,j,k[η] => el U@{yi, aj, xk});
es = Flatten[Table[Coefficient[e, b] == 0,
{e, {F - 1U / η → 0, F ** G - yU ** F - ∂ηF}},
{b, bs}]];
F = F /. DSolve[es, fs, η][[1]];
IE[0,
F x + η y + (U /. {CU → -t η ξ, QU → η ξ (1 - T) / ħ}),
F + 0$k /. {e → 1, U → Times}
] /. (v : η | ξ | t | T | y | a | x) → v1
]];
tSWxyi,j :=
SWxy[$U, $k] /. {ξ1 → ξi, η1 → ηj, (v : t | T | y | a | x)1 → vk};
tSWxa := IE[αj ak, e-Y αj ξi xk, 1];
tSWya := IE[αi ak, e-Y αi ηj yk, 1];

```

### Exponentials as needed.

Task. Define  $\text{Exp}_{U_i,k}[\xi, P]$  which computes  $e^{\xi Q(P)}$  to  $e^k$  in the algebra  $U_i$ , where  $\xi$  is a scalar,  $X$  is  $x_i$  or  $y_i$ , and  $P$  is an  $\epsilon$ -dependent near-docile element, giving the answer in  $\mathbb{E}$ -form. Should satisfy  $U@ \text{Exp}_{U_i,k}[\xi, P] == \mathbb{S}_U[e^{\xi X}, x \rightarrow Q(P)]$ .

Methodology. If  $P_0 := P_{\epsilon=0}$  and  $e^{\xi Q(P)} = \mathcal{O}(e^{\xi P_0} F(\xi))$ , then  $F(\xi = 0) = 1$  and we have:

$$\mathcal{O}(e^{\xi P_0} (P_0 F(\xi) + \partial_\xi F)) = \mathcal{O}(\partial_\xi e^{\xi P_0} F(\xi)) = \partial_\xi \mathcal{O}(e^{\xi P_0} F(\xi)) = e^{\xi P_0} \mathcal{O}(P) = \mathcal{O}(e^{\xi P_0} F(\xi)) \mathcal{O}(P)$$

This is an ODE for  $F$ . Setting inductively  $F_k = F_{k-1} + e^k \varphi$  we find that  $F_0 = 1$  and solve for  $\varphi$ .

```

(* Bug: The first line is valid only if 0(eP0) == e0(P0). *)
(* Bug: ξ must be a symbol. *)
ExpUi[0, {ξ_, P_}] := Module[{LQ = Normal@P /. e → 0},
IE[ξ LQ /. (x | y)i → 0, ξ LQ /. (t | a)i → 0, 1]];
ExpUi[k, {ξ_, P_}] := Block[{ $U = U, $k = k },
Module[{ P0, φ, φs, F, j, rhs, at0, atξ },
P0 = Normal@P /. e → 0;
φs = Flatten@Table[φj1,j2,j3[ξ], {j2, 0, k},
{j1, 0, 2k + 1 - j2}, {j3, 0, 2k + 1 - j2 - j1}];
F = Normal@Last@ExpUi[k-1, {ξ, P}] +
ek φs.(φs /. φjs[ξ] => Times@@{yi, ai, xi}{js});
rhs =
Normal@
Last@
mi,j → i [IE[ξ P0 /. (x | y)i → 0, ξ P0 /. (t | a)i → 0, F + 0k]
mi,j → j [IE[0, 0, P + 0k]];
at0 = (# == 0) & /@
Flatten@CoefficientList[F - 1 /. ξ → 0, {yi, ai, xi});
atξ = (# == 0) & /@
Flatten@CoefficientList[(∂ξF) + P0 F - rhs,
{yi, ai, xi});
IE[ξ P0 /. (x | y)i → 0, ξ P0 /. (t | a)i → 0, F + 0k] /.
DSolve[And@@(at0 ∪ atξ), φs, ξ][[1]] ] ]

```

### Zip and Bind

```

E /: IE[L1_, Q1_, P1_] == IE[L2_, Q2_, P2_] :=
CF[L1 == L2] ∧ CF[Q1 == Q2] ∧ CF[Normal[P1 - P2] == 0];
E /: IE[L1_, Q1_, P1_] IE[L2_, Q2_, P2_] :=
IE[L1 + L2, Q1 + Q2, P1 * P2];
{t*, y*, a*, x*, z*} = {t, η, α, ξ, ζ};
{τ*, η*, α*, ξ*, ζ*} = {t, y, a, x, z};
(u-i)* := (u*)i;
Zip{}[P_] := P;
Zip{ξ, ζ}[P_] :=
(Expand[P // Zip{ξ}] /. f-. ξd => ∂{ξ*, d}f) /. ζ* → 0

```

QZip implements the “Q-level zips” on  $\mathbb{E}(L, Q, P) = \text{Pe}^{L+Q}$ . Such zips regard the  $L$  variables as scalars.

```

QZipξs_List, simp@E[L_, Q_, P_] :=
Module[{ {ξ, z, zs, c, ys, ηs, qt, zrule, Q1, Q2},
zs = Table[ξ*, {ξ, ζs}];
c = Q /. Alternatives@@(ξs ∪ zs) → 0;
ys = Table[∂ξ(Q /. Alternatives@@zs → 0), {ξ, ζs}];
ηs = Table[∂z(Q /. Alternatives@@ξs → 0), {z, zs}];
qt = Inverse@Table[Kδz,ξ* - ∂z,ξQ, {ξ, ζs}, {z, zs}];
zrule = Thread[zs → qt.(zs + ys)];
Q2 = (Q1 = c + ηs.zs /. zrule) /. Alternatives@@zs → 0;
simp /@ IE[L, Q2, Det[qt] e-Q2 Zipξs[eQ1(P /. zrule)]] ];

```

$\text{QZip}_{\xi s\_List} := \text{QZip}_{\xi s, CF}$ ;

LZip implements the “L-level zips” on  $\mathbb{E}(L, Q, P) = \text{Pe}^{L+Q}$ . Such zips regard all of  $\text{Pe}^Q$  as a single “P”. Here the z’s are  $t$  and  $\alpha$  and the  $\zeta$ ’s are  $\tau$  and  $a$ .

```

LZipξs_List, simp@E[L_, Q_, P_] :=
Module[{ {ξ, z, zs, c, ys, ηs, lt, zrule, L1, L2, Q1, Q2},
zs = Table[ξ*, {ξ, ζs}];
c = L /. Alternatives@@(ξs ∪ zs) → 0;
ys = Table[∂ξ(L /. Alternatives@@zs → 0), {ξ, ζs}];
ηs = Table[∂z(L /. Alternatives@@ξs → 0), {z, zs}];
lt = Inverse@Table[Kδz,ξ* - ∂z,ξL, {ξ, ζs}, {z, zs}];
zrule = Thread[zs → lt.(zs + ys)];
L2 = (L1 = c + ηs.zs /. zrule) /. Alternatives@@zs → 0;
Q2 = (Q1 = Q /. T2t /. zrule) /. Alternatives@@zs → 0;
simp /@
IE[L2, Q2, Det[lt] e-L2-Q2
Zipξs[eL1+Q1(P /. T2t /. zrule)]] // . t2T ];

```

$\text{LZip}_{\xi s\_List} := \text{LZip}_{\xi s, CF}$ ;

```

Bind{}[L_, R_] := LR;
Bind{is_}[L-E, R-E] := Module[{n},
Times[
L /. Table[(v : T | t | a | x | y)i → vnei, {i, {is}}],
R /. Table[(v : τ | α | ξ | η)i → vnei, {i, {is}}]
] // LZipFlatten@Table[{τnei, anei}, {i, {is}}] //
QZipFlatten@Table[{ξnei, ynei}, {i, {is}}] ];
BL_List := BindL; Bis_ := Bind{is};
Bind{ξ-E} := ξ;
Bind{Ls_}[Ls_List, R_] := Bindξs[Bind{Ls}, R];

```

### Tensorial Representations

```

tη = tI = IE[0, 0, 1 + 0$k];
tmi,j → k := Module[{tk},
IE[(τi + τj) tk + αi ak + αj ak, ηi yk + ξj xk, 1]
(tSWxyi,j → tk /. {ttk → tk, Ttk → Tk, ytk → e-Y αi yk,
atk → ak, xtk → e-Y αj xk});
mj → k [ξ-E] := ξ ~ Bj,k ~ tmj,k → k;
tm1,2 → 3

```

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ a_3 \alpha_1 + a_3 \alpha_2 + t_3 (\tau_1 + \tau_2), \right. \\ \left. y_3 \eta_1 + e^{-\gamma \alpha_1} y_3 \eta_2 + e^{-\gamma \alpha_2} x_3 \xi_1 + \frac{(1 - T_3) \eta_2 \xi_1}{\hbar} + x_3 \xi_2, \right. \\ \left. 1 + \frac{1}{4 \hbar} \eta_2 \xi_1 (8 \hbar a_3 T_3 + 4 e^{-\gamma \alpha_1 - \gamma \alpha_2} \gamma \hbar^2 x_3 y_3 + 2 e^{-\gamma \alpha_1} \gamma \hbar y_3 \eta_2 - \right. \\ \left. 6 e^{-\gamma \alpha_1} \gamma \hbar T_3 y_3 \eta_2 + 2 e^{-\gamma \alpha_2} \gamma \hbar x_3 \xi_1 - 6 e^{-\gamma \alpha_2} \gamma \hbar T_3 x_3 \xi_1 + \right. \\ \left. \gamma \eta_2 \xi_1 - 4 \gamma T_3 \eta_2 \xi_1 + 3 \gamma T_3^2 \eta_2 \xi_1) \in + O[\epsilon]^2 \right]$$

```
S[U_, kk_] := S[U, kk] = Module[{OE},
  OE = m3,2,1->1[ExpQU1,$k[η, S1[QU[y1]]] /. QU -> Times]
  ExpQU2,$k[α, S2[QU[a2]]] /. QU -> Times]
  ExpQU3,$k[ξ, S3[QU[x3]]] /. QU -> Times];]
  E[-t1 τ1 + OE[[1]], OE[[2]], OE[[3]]] /.
  {η -> η1, α -> α1, ξ -> ξ1};]
ts_i := S[$U, $k] /. {(v : τ | η | α | ξ)1 -> v_i,
  (v : t | T | y | a | x)1 -> v_i};]
```

$$ts_1 \\ \mathbb{E} \left[ -a_1 \alpha_1 - t_1 \tau_1, \right. \\ \left. \frac{-e^{\gamma \alpha_1} \hbar y_1 \eta_1 - e^{\gamma \alpha_1} \hbar T_1 x_1 \xi_1 + e^{\gamma \alpha_1} \eta_1 \xi_1 - e^{\gamma \alpha_1} T_1 \eta_1 \xi_1}{\hbar T_1}, 1 + \right. \\ \left. \frac{1}{4 \hbar T_1^2} (4 e^{\gamma \alpha_1} \gamma \hbar^2 T_1 y_1 \eta_1 - 4 e^{\gamma \alpha_1} \hbar^2 a_1 T_1 y_1 \eta_1 - 2 e^{2 \gamma \alpha_1} \gamma \hbar^2 y_1^2 \eta_1^2 - \right. \\ \left. 4 e^{\gamma \alpha_1} \hbar^2 a_1 T_1^2 x_1 \xi_1 - 4 e^{\gamma \alpha_1} \gamma \hbar T_1 \eta_1 \xi_1 + 8 e^{\gamma \alpha_1} \hbar a_1 T_1 \eta_1 \xi_1 + \right. \\ \left. 4 e^{\gamma \alpha_1} \gamma \hbar T_1^2 \eta_1 \xi_1 - 4 e^{2 \gamma \alpha_1} \gamma \hbar^2 T_1 x_1 y_1 \eta_1 \xi_1 + 6 e^{2 \gamma \alpha_1} \gamma \right. \\ \left. \hbar y_1 \eta_1^2 \xi_1 - 2 e^{2 \gamma \alpha_1} \gamma \hbar T_1 y_1 \eta_1^2 \xi_1 - 2 e^{2 \gamma \alpha_1} \gamma \hbar^2 T_1^2 x_1^2 \xi_1^2 + \right. \\ \left. 6 e^{2 \gamma \alpha_1} \gamma \hbar T_1 x_1 \eta_1 \xi_1^2 - 2 e^{2 \gamma \alpha_1} \gamma \hbar T_1^2 x_1 \eta_1 \xi_1^2 - 3 e^{2 \gamma \alpha_1} \gamma \eta_1^2 \xi_1^2 + \right. \\ \left. 4 e^{2 \gamma \alpha_1} \gamma T_1 \eta_1^2 \xi_1^2 - e^{2 \gamma \alpha_1} \gamma T_1^2 \eta_1^2 \xi_1^2) \in + O[\epsilon]^2 \right]$$

```
Δ[U_, kk_] := Δ[U, kk] = Module[{OE},
  OE = Block[{$k = kk, $p = kk + 1},
  m1,3,5->1@
  m2,4,6->2@Times[(* Warning:
  wrong unless $p>=$k+1! *)
  ReplacePart[1 -> 0]@
  ExpQU1,$k[η, Δ1->1,2[QU[y1]]] /. QU -> Times],
  ReplacePart[2 -> 0]@
  ExpQU3,$k[α, Δ3->3,4[QU[a3]]] /. QU -> Times],
  ReplacePart[1 -> 0]@
  ExpQU5,$k[ξ, Δ5->5,6[QU[x5]]] /. QU -> Times]
  ] /. {η -> η1, α -> α1, ξ -> ξ1};]
  E[t1 (t1 + t2) + α1 (a1 + a2), OE[[2]], OE[[3]]];]
tΔi->j,k_ :=
  Δ[$U, $k] /. {(v : τ | η | α | ξ)1 -> v_i,
  (v : t | T | y | a | x)1 -> v_j, (v : t | T | y | a | x)2 -> v_k};]
```

$$t\Delta_{1 \rightarrow 1, 2} \\ \mathbb{E} \left[ (a_1 + a_2) \alpha_1 + (t_1 + t_2) \tau_1, y_1 \eta_1 + T_1 y_2 \eta_1 + x_1 \xi_1 + x_2 \xi_1, \right. \\ \left. 1 + \frac{1}{2} (-2 \hbar a_1 T_1 y_2 \eta_1 + \gamma \hbar T_1 y_1 y_2 \eta_1^2 - 2 \hbar a_1 x_2 \xi_1 + \gamma \hbar x_1 x_2 \xi_1^2) \in + \right. \\ \left. O[\epsilon]^2 \right]$$

The Faddeev-Quesne formula:

$$e_{q_-, k_-}[X_-] := e^{\sum_{j=1}^{k_-+1} \frac{(1-q)^j x_j^j}{j(1-q^j)}}; e_{q_-, k_-}[X_-] := e_{q_-, k_-}[X_-]$$

```
R[QU, kk_] :=
  R[QU, kk] = E[-\frac{\hbar a_2 t_1}{\gamma}, \hbar x_2 y_1,
  Series[e^{\hbar \gamma^{-1} t_1 a_2 - \hbar y_1 x_2}
  (e^{\hbar b_1 a_2} e_{q_{\hbar, kk}}[\hbar y_1 x_2] /. b_1 -> \gamma^{-1} (e a_1 - t_1)),
  {\epsilon, \theta, kk}]]];
tRi,j_ :=
  R[$U, $k] /. {(v : t | T | y | a | x)1 -> v_i,
  (v : t | T | y | a | x)2 -> v_j};]
tRi,j_ := tRi,j ~ B_j ~ tS_j;
{tR1,2, tR1,2}
{E[-\frac{\hbar a_2 t_1}{\gamma}, \hbar x_2 y_1, 1 + (\frac{\hbar a_1 a_2}{\gamma} - \frac{1}{4} \gamma \hbar^3 x_2^2 y_1^2) \in + O[\epsilon]^2],
  E[\frac{\hbar a_2 t_1}{\gamma}, -\frac{\hbar x_2 y_1}{T_1}, 1 + \frac{1}{4 \gamma T_1^2}
  (-4 \hbar a_1 a_2 T_1^2 - 4 \gamma \hbar^2 a_1 T_1 x_2 y_1 - 4 \gamma \hbar^2 a_2 T_1 x_2 y_1 - 3 \gamma^2 \hbar^3 x_2^2 y_1^2)
  \in + O[\epsilon]^2]}]
```

tC is the counterclockwise spinner; tC is its inverse.

```
tC_i := E[0, \theta, T_i^{1/2} e^{-e a_i \hbar} + \theta_{sk}];
tC_i := E[0, \theta, T_i^{-1/2} e^{e a_i \hbar} + \theta_{sk}];
Block[{$k = 3}, {tC1, tC2}]
{E[0, \theta,
  \sqrt{T_1} - \hbar a_1 \sqrt{T_1} \in + \frac{1}{2} \hbar^2 a_1^2 \sqrt{T_1} \in^2 - \frac{1}{6} (\hbar^3 a_1^3 \sqrt{T_1}) \in^3 + O[\epsilon]^4],
  E[0, \theta, \frac{1}{\sqrt{T_2}} + \frac{\hbar a_2 \in}{\sqrt{T_2}} + \frac{\hbar^2 a_2^2 \in^2}{2 \sqrt{T_2}} + \frac{\hbar^3 a_2^3 \in^3}{6 \sqrt{T_2}} + O[\epsilon]^4]}]
```

```
Kink[QU, kk_] :=
  Kink[QU, kk] =
  Block[{$k = kk}, (tR1,3 tC2) ~ B1,2 ~ tm1,2->1 ~ B1,3 ~ tm1,3->1];]
tKink_i := Kink[$U, $k] /. {(v : t | T | y | a | x)1 -> v_i};]
Kink[QU, kk_] :=
  Kink[QU, kk] =
  Block[{$k = kk}, (tR1,3 tC2) ~ B1,2 ~ tm1,2->1 ~ B1,3 ~ tm1,3->1];]
tKink_i := Kink[$U, $k] /. {(v : t | T | y | a | x)1 -> v_i};]
```

### Alternative Algorithms

```
LatR_k[CU] := If[k == 0, 1, Module[{eq, d, b, c, so},
  eq = \rho @ e^{\xi x u} . \rho @ e^{\eta y u} == \rho @ e^d y u . \rho @ e^c (t1 cu - 2 e a u) . \rho @ e^{b x u};
  {so} = Solve[Thread[Flatten[eq], {d, b, c}]] /.
  C@1 -> \theta;
  Series[e^{-\eta y - \xi x + \eta \xi t + c t + d y - 2 e c a + b x} /. so, {\epsilon, \theta, k}]]];]
```

### The Trefoil

```
Block[{$k = 1},
  Z = tR1,5 tR6,2 tR3,7 tC4 tKink8 tKink9 tKink10;
  Do[Z = Z ~ B1,k ~ tm1,k->1, {k, 2, 10}]; Z]
E[0, \theta, \frac{T_1}{1 - T_1 + T_1^2} +
  ((-2 \hbar a_1 T_1 - \gamma \hbar T_1^2 + 2 \hbar a_1 T_1^2 + 2 \gamma \hbar T_1^3 - 3 \gamma \hbar T_1^4 - 2 \hbar a_1 T_1^4 +
  2 \gamma \hbar T_1^5 + 2 \hbar a_1 T_1^5 - 2 \gamma \hbar^2 T_1 x_1 y_1 - 2 \gamma \hbar^2 T_1^4 x_1 y_1) \in) /
  (1 - 3 T_1 + 6 T_1^2 - 7 T_1^3 + 6 T_1^4 - 3 T_1^5 + T_1^6) + O[\epsilon]^2]
```

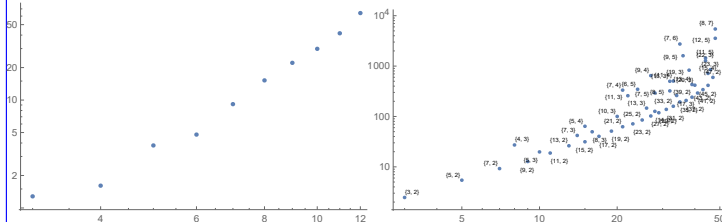
diagram	$n'_k$	Alexander's $\omega^+$	genus / ribbon	diagram	$n'_k$	Alexander's $\omega^+$	genus / ribbon
		Today's / Rozansky's $\rho^+$	unknotting number / amphicheiral			Today's / Rozansky's $\rho^+$	unknotting number / amphicheiral
	$0^q$	1	0 / ✓		$3^q$	$t - 1$	1 / ✗
	0		0 / ✓		t		1 / ✗
	$4^q$	$3 - t$	1 / ✗		$5^q$	$t^2 - t + 1$	2 / ✗
	0		1 / ✓		$2t^3 + 3t$		2 / ✗
	$5^q$	$2t - 3$	1 / ✗		$6^q$	$5 - 2t$	1 / ✓
	$5t - 4$		1 / ✗		$t - 4$		1 / ✗



**Abstract.** It has long been known that there are knot invariants associated to semi-simple Lie algebras, and there has long been a dogma as for how to extract them: “quantize and use **representation theory**”. We present an alternative and better procedure: “centrally extend, **approximate by solvable**, and learn how to **re-order exponentials** in a universal enveloping algebra”. While equivalent to the old invariants via a complicated process, our invariants are in practice stronger, faster to compute (poly-time vs. exp-time), and clearly carry topological information.

**KiW 43 Abstract** (wεβ/kiw). Whether or not you like the formulas on this page, they describe the strongest truly computable knot invariant we know.

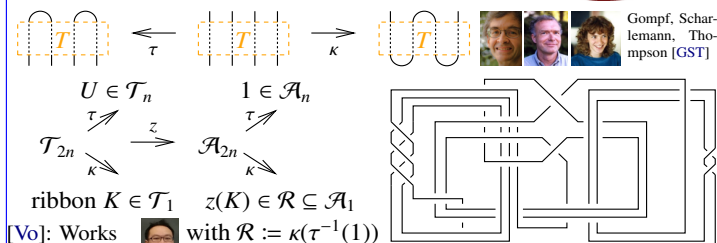
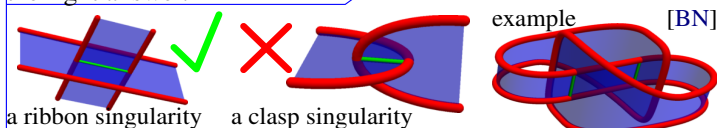
**Experimental Analysis** (wεβ/Exp). Log-log plots of computation time (sec) vs. crossing number, for all knots with up to 12 crossings (mean times) and for all torus knots with up to 48 crossings:



**Power.** On the 250 knots with at most 10 crossings, the pair  $(\omega, \rho_1)$  attains 250 distinct values, while (Khovanov, HOMFLY-PT) attains only 249 distinct values. To 11 crossings the numbers are (802, 788, 772) and to 12 they are (2978, 2883, 2786).

**Genus.** Up to 12 crossings, always  $\rho_1$  is symmetric under  $t \leftrightarrow t^{-1}$ . With  $\rho_1^+$  denoting the positive-degree part of  $\rho_1$ , always  $\deg \rho_1^+ \leq 2g - 1$ , where  $g$  is the 3-genus of  $K$  (equality for 2530 knots). This gives a lower bound on  $g$  in terms of  $\rho_1$  (conjectural, but undoubtedly true). This bound is often weaker than the Alexander bound, yet for 10 of the 12-xing Alexander failures it does give the right answer.

**Ribbon Knots.**



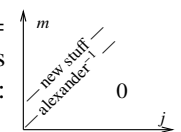
[Vo]: Works with  $\mathcal{R} := \kappa(\tau^{-1}(1))$  for Alexander!  
 $A^+ = -t^8 + 2t^7 - t^6 - 2t^4 + 5t^3 - 2t^2 - 7t + 13$   
 $\rho_1^+ = 5t^{15} - 18t^{14} + 33t^{13} - 32t^{12} + 2t^{11} + 42t^{10} - 62t^9 - 8t^8 + 166t^7 - 242t^6 +$   
 Faster is better, leaner is meaner!  $108t^5 + 132t^4 - 226t^3 + 148t^2 - 11t - 36$

**Ordering Symbols.**  $\odot$  (poly | specs) plants the variables of poly in  $S(\otimes_i \mathfrak{g})$  on several tensor copies of  $\mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g})$  according to specs. E.g.,  
 $\odot(a_1^3 y_1 a_2 e^{y_3} x_3^9 | x_3 a_1 \otimes y_1 y_3 a_2) = x^9 a^3 \otimes y e^y a \in \mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g}) \otimes \mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g})$   
 This enables the description of elements of  $\hat{\mathcal{U}}(\mathfrak{g})^{\otimes S}$  using commutative polynomials / power series.

**Theorem** ([BNG], conjectured [MM], elucidated [Ro1]). Let  $J_d(K)$  be the coloured Jones polynomial of  $K$ , in the  $d$ -dimensional representation of  $sl_2$ . Writing

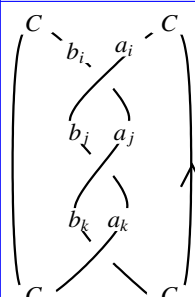
$$\left. \frac{(q^{1/2} - q^{-1/2})J_d(K)}{q^{d/2} - q^{-d/2}} \right|_{q=e^h} = \sum_{j,m \geq 0} a_{jm}(K) d^j h^m,$$

“below diagonal” coefficients vanish,  $a_{jm}(K) = 0$  if  $j > m$ , and “on diagonal” coefficients give the inverse of the Alexander polynomial:  
 $(\sum_{m=0}^{\infty} a_{mm}(K) h^m) \cdot \omega(K)(e^h) = 1$ .



“Above diagonal” we have **Rozansky’s Theorem** [Ro3, (1.2)]:

$$J_d(K)(q) = \frac{q^d - q^{-d}}{(q - q^{-1})\omega(K)(q^d)} \left( 1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(q-1)^k \rho_k(K)(q^d)}{\omega^{2k}(K)(q^d)} \right).$$



**The Yang-Baxter Technique.** Given an algebra  $U$  (typically  $\hat{\mathcal{U}}(\mathfrak{g})$  or  $\hat{\mathcal{U}}_q(\mathfrak{g})$ ) and elements

$$R = \sum a_i \otimes b_i \in U \otimes U \quad \text{and} \quad C \in U,$$

form

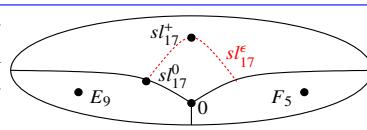
$$Z = \sum_{i,j,k} C a_i b_j a_k C^2 b_i a_j b_k C.$$

**Problem.** Extract information from  $Z$ .

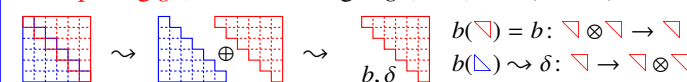
**The Dogma.** Use representation theory. In principle finite, but *slow*.

**The Loyal Opposition.** For certain algebras, work in a homomorphic poly-dimensional “space of formulas”.  
 $m_k^{ij} \circlearrowleft \{ \mathcal{F}_S \} \xrightarrow{\mathbb{E}} \{ U^{\otimes S} \} \circlearrowright m_k^{ij}$

**The (fake) moduli** of Lie algebras on  $V$ , a quadratic variety in  $(V^*)^{\otimes 2} \otimes V$  is on the right. We care about  $sl_{17}^k := sl_{17}^e / (\epsilon^{k+1} = 0)$ .



**Recomposing  $gl_n$ .** Half is enough!  $gl_n \oplus \mathfrak{a}_n = \mathcal{D}(\nabla, b, \delta)$ :



Now define  $gl_n^e := \mathcal{D}(\nabla, b, \epsilon\delta)$ . Schematically, this is  $[\nabla, \nabla] = \nabla$ ,  $[\Delta, \Delta] = \epsilon\Delta$ , and  $[\nabla, \Delta] = \Delta + \epsilon\nabla$ . In detail, it is

$i$	$j$	$[x_{ij}, x_{kl}] = \delta_{jk} x_{il} - \delta_{li} x_{kj}$	$[y_{ij}, y_{kl}] = \epsilon \delta_{jk} y_{il} - \epsilon \delta_{li} y_{kj}$
$i$	$j$	$[x_{ij}, y_{kl}] = \delta_{jk} (\epsilon \delta_{k < j} x_{il} + \delta_{il} (b_i + \epsilon a_i) / 2 + \delta_{i > j} y_{il})$	$-\delta_{li} (\epsilon \delta_{k < j} x_{kj} + \delta_{kj} (b_j + \epsilon a_j) / 2 + \delta_{k > j} y_{kj})$
$j$	$i$	$[a_i, x_{jk}] = (\delta_{ij} - \delta_{ik}) x_{jk}$	$[b_i, x_{jk}] = \epsilon (\delta_{ij} - \delta_{ik}) x_{jk}$
		$[a_i, y_{jk}] = (\delta_{ij} - \delta_{ik}) y_{jk}$	$[b_i, y_{jk}] = \epsilon (\delta_{ij} - \delta_{ik}) y_{jk}$

**The Main  $sl_2$  Theorem.** Let  $\mathfrak{g}^\epsilon = \langle t, y, a, x \rangle / ([t, \cdot] = 0, [a, x] = x, [a, y] = -y, [x, y] = t - 2\epsilon a)$  and let  $\mathfrak{g}_k = \mathfrak{g}^\epsilon / (\epsilon^{k+1} = 0)$ . The  $\mathfrak{g}_k$ -invariant of any  $S$ -component tangle  $K$  can be written in the form  $Z(K) = \odot (\omega e^{L+Q+P} : \otimes_{i \in S} y_i a_i x_i)$ , where  $\omega$  is a scalar (a rational function in the variables  $t_i$  and their exponentials  $T_i := e^{t_i}$ ), where  $L = \sum l_{ij} t_i a_j$  is a quadratic in  $t_i$  and  $a_j$  with integer coefficients  $l_{ij}$ , where  $Q = \sum q_{ij} y_i x_j$  is a quadratic in the variables  $y_i$  and  $x_j$  with scalar coefficients  $q_{ij}$ , and where  $P$  is a polynomial in  $\{\epsilon, y_i, a_i, x_i\}$  (with scalar coefficients) whose  $\epsilon^d$ -term is of degree at most  $2d + 2$  in  $\{y_i, \sqrt{a_i}, x_i\}$ . Furthermore, after setting  $t_i = t$  and  $T_i = T$  for all  $i$ , the invariant  $Z(K)$  is poly-time computable.



**The PBW Problem.** In  $\mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g}^\epsilon)$ , bring  $Z = y^3 a^2 x^2 \cdot y^2 a^2 x$  to  $yax$ -order. In other words, find  $g \in \mathbb{Z}[\epsilon, t, y, a, x]$  such that  $Z = \mathbb{O}(f = y^3 y_2^2 a_1^2 a_2^2 x_1^2 x_2 : y_1 a_1 x_1 y_2 a_2 x_2) = \mathbb{O}(g : yax)$ .

**Solution, Part 1.** In  $\mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g}^\epsilon)$  we have

$$X_{\tau_1, \eta_1, \alpha_1, \xi_1, \tau_2, \eta_2, \alpha_2, \xi_2} := e^{\tau_1 t} e^{\eta_1 y} e^{\alpha_1 a} e^{\xi_1 x} e^{\tau_2 t} e^{\eta_2 y} e^{\alpha_2 a} e^{\xi_2 x} = e^{\tau t} e^{\eta y} e^{\alpha a} e^{\xi x} =: Y_{\tau, \eta, \alpha, \xi},$$

where  $\tau, \eta, \alpha, \xi$  are ugly functions of  $\tau_1, \eta_1, \alpha_1, \xi_1$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \tau &= \tau_1 + \tau_2 - \frac{\log(1 - \epsilon \eta_2 \xi_1)}{\epsilon} = \tau_1 + \tau_2 + \eta_2 \xi_1 + \frac{\epsilon}{2} \eta_2^2 \xi_1^2 + \dots, \\ \eta &= \eta_1 + \frac{e^{-\alpha_1} \eta_2}{(1 - \epsilon \eta_2 \xi_1)} = \eta_1 + e^{-\alpha_1} \eta_2 + \epsilon e^{-\alpha_1} \eta_2^2 \xi_1 + \dots, \\ \alpha &= \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + 2 \log(1 - \epsilon \eta_2 \xi_1) = \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 - 2 \epsilon \eta_2 \xi_1 + \dots, \\ \xi &= \frac{e^{-\alpha_2} \xi_1}{(1 - \epsilon \eta_2 \xi_1)} + \xi_2 = e^{-\alpha_2} \xi_1 + \xi_2 + \epsilon e^{-\alpha_2} \eta_2 \xi_1^2 + \dots \end{aligned}$$

**Note 1.** This defines a mapping  $\Phi: \mathbb{R}_{\tau_1, \eta_1, \alpha_1, \xi_1, \tau_2, \eta_2, \alpha_2, \xi_2}^8 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\tau, \eta, \alpha, \xi}^4$ .

**Proof.**  $\mathfrak{g}^\epsilon$  has a 2D representation  $\rho$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \rho t &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}; \quad \rho y = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \theta \\ -\epsilon & 0 \end{pmatrix}; \\ \rho a &= \begin{pmatrix} (1 + 1/\epsilon) / 2 & 0 \\ 0 & -(1 - 1/\epsilon) / 2 \end{pmatrix}; \quad \rho x = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & \theta \end{pmatrix}; \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Simplify} \{ \rho a \cdot \rho x - \rho x \cdot \rho a = \rho x, \quad \rho a \cdot \rho y - \rho y \cdot \rho a = -\rho y, \\ \rho x \cdot \rho y - \rho y \cdot \rho x = \rho t - 2 \epsilon \rho a \} \end{aligned}$$

{True, True, True}

It is enough to verify the desired identity in  $\rho$ :

ME = MatrixExp;

Simplify [

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{ME}[\tau_1 \rho t] \cdot \text{ME}[\eta_1 \rho y] \cdot \text{ME}[\alpha_1 \rho a] \cdot \text{ME}[\xi_1 \rho x] \cdot \text{ME}[\tau_2 \rho t] \cdot \\ & \text{ME}[\eta_2 \rho y] \cdot \text{ME}[\alpha_2 \rho a] \cdot \text{ME}[\xi_2 \rho x] = \\ & \text{ME}[\tau_0 \rho t] \cdot \text{ME}[\eta_0 \rho y] \cdot \text{ME}[\alpha_0 \rho a] \cdot \text{ME}[\xi_0 \rho x] / . \\ & \left\{ \begin{aligned} \tau_0 &\rightarrow -\frac{\log[1 - \epsilon \eta_2 \xi_1]}{\epsilon} + \tau_1 + \tau_2, \quad \eta_0 \rightarrow \eta_1 + \frac{e^{-\alpha_1} \eta_2}{1 - \epsilon \eta_2 \xi_1}, \\ \alpha_0 &\rightarrow 2 \text{Log}[1 - \epsilon \eta_2 \xi_1] + \alpha_1 + \alpha_2, \quad \xi_0 \rightarrow \frac{e^{-\alpha_2} \xi_1}{1 - \epsilon \eta_2 \xi_1} + \xi_2 \end{aligned} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

True

**Solution, Part 2.** But now, with  $D_f = f(z \mapsto \partial_z) = \partial_{\eta_1}^3 \partial_{\alpha_1}^2 \partial_{\xi_1}^2 \partial_{\eta_2}^2 \partial_{\alpha_2}^2 \partial_{\xi_2}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} Z &= D_f X_{\tau_1, \eta_1, \alpha_1, \xi_1, \tau_2, \eta_2, \alpha_2, \xi_2} \Big|_{v_S=0} = D_f Y_{\tau, \eta, \alpha, \xi} \Big|_{v_S=0} \\ &= \mathbb{O} \left( D_f e^{\tau t} e^{\eta y} e^{\alpha a} e^{\xi x} \Big|_{v_S=0} : yax \right) = \mathbb{O}(g : yax) : \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Expand} \left[ \partial_{(\eta_1, 3)} \partial_{(\alpha_1, 2)} \partial_{(\xi_1, 2)} \partial_{(\eta_2, 2)} \partial_{(\alpha_2, 2)} \partial_{(\xi_2, 1)} \text{Exp} \left[ \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. \left( -\frac{\log[1 - \epsilon \eta_2 \xi_1]}{\epsilon} + \tau_1 + \tau_2 \right) t + \left( \eta_1 + \frac{e^{-\alpha_1} \eta_2}{1 - \epsilon \eta_2 \xi_1} \right) y + \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. (2 \text{Log}[1 - \epsilon \eta_2 \xi_1] + \alpha_1 + \alpha_2) a + \left( \frac{e^{-\alpha_2} \xi_1}{1 - \epsilon \eta_2 \xi_1} + \xi_2 \right) x \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. \right] / . (\tau | \eta | \alpha | \xi)_{1|2} \rightarrow 0 \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & 2 a^4 t^2 x y^3 + 4 t x^2 y^4 - 16 a t x^2 y^4 + 24 a^2 t x^2 y^4 - 16 a^3 t x^2 y^4 + \\ & 4 a^4 t x^2 y^4 + 16 x^3 y^5 - 32 a x^3 y^5 + 24 a^2 x^3 y^5 - 8 a^3 x^3 y^5 + a^4 x^3 y^5 + \\ & 2 a^4 t x y^3 \epsilon - 8 a^5 t x y^3 \epsilon + 8 x^2 y^4 \epsilon - 40 a x^2 y^4 \epsilon + 80 a^2 x^2 y^4 \epsilon - \\ & 80 a^3 x^2 y^4 \epsilon + 40 a^4 x^2 y^4 \epsilon - 8 a^5 x^2 y^4 \epsilon - 4 a^5 x y^3 \epsilon^2 + 8 a^6 x y^3 \epsilon^2 \end{aligned}$$

diagram	$n_k^t$ Alexander's $\omega^+$ Today's / Rozansky's $\rho_1^+$	genus / ribbon unknotting number / amphicheiral	diagram	$n_k^t$ Alexander's $\omega^+$ Today's / Rozansky's $\rho_1^+$	genus / ribbon unknotting number / amphicheiral
	$0_1^a$ 0	1 0/✓		$3_1^a$ t	t-1 1/✗ 1/✗
	$4_1^a$ 0	3-t 1/✗ 1/✓		$5_1^a$ $2t^3 + 3t$	t^2 - t + 1 2/✗ 2/✗
	$5_2^a$ $5t - 4$	2t-3 1/✗ 1/✗		$6_1^a$ t-4	5-2t 1/✓ 1/✗

**Note 2.** Replacing  $f \rightarrow D_f$  (and likewise  $g \rightarrow D_g$ ), we find that  $D_g = \Phi_* D_f$ .

**Note 3.** The two great evils of mathematics are non-commutativity and non-linearity. We traded one for the other.

**Note 4.** We could have done similarly with  $e^{\tau_1 t} e^{\eta_1 y} e^{\alpha_1 a} e^{\xi_1 x} = e^{\tau t + \eta y + \alpha a + \xi x}$ , and with  $S(e^{\tau_1 t} e^{\eta_1 y} e^{\alpha_1 a} e^{\xi_1 x})$ ,  $\Delta(e^{\tau_1 t} e^{\eta_1 y} e^{\alpha_1 a} e^{\xi_1 x})$ ,  $\prod_{i=1}^5 e^{\tau_i t} e^{\eta_i y} e^{\alpha_i a} e^{\xi_i x}$ .

**Fact.**  $R_{12} \rightarrow \exp(\partial_{\tau_1} \partial_{\alpha_2} + \partial_{y_1} \partial_{x_2})(1 + \sum_{d \geq 1} \epsilon^d p_d)$ , where the  $p_d$  are computable polynomials of a-priori bounded degrees.

**Moral.** We need to understand the pushforwards via maps like  $\Phi$  of (formally  $\infty$ -order) “differential operators at 0”, that in themselves are perturbed Gaussians. This turns out to be the same problem as “0-dimensional QFT” (except no integration is ever needed), and if  $\epsilon^{k+1} = 0$ , it is explicitly soluble.

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dog·ma (dôg'mə, dôg'-)

The Free Dictionary, [oeqf/TFD](#)

n. pl. dog·mas or dog·ma·ta (-mə-tə)

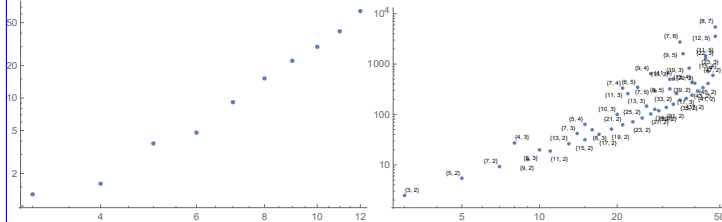
1. A doctrine or a corpus of doctrines relating to matters such as morality and faith, set forth in an authoritative manner by a religion.
2. A principle or statement of ideas, or a group of such principles or statements, especially when considered to be authoritative or accepted uncritically: “*Much education consists in the instilling of unfounded dogmas in place of a spirit of inquiry*” (Bertrand Russell).

# The Dogma is Wrong

**Abstract.** It has long been known that there are knot invariants associated to semi-simple Lie algebras, and there has long been a dogma as for how to extract them: “quantize and use representation theory”. We present an alternative and better procedure: “centrally extend, approximate by solvable, and learn how to re-order exponentials in a universal enveloping algebra”. While equivalent to the old invariants via a complicated process, our invariants are in practice stronger, faster to compute (poly-time vs. exp-time), and clearly carry topological information.

**KiW 43 Abstract** ([oebf/kiw](#)). Whether or not you like the formulas on this page, they describe the strongest truly computable knot invariant we know.

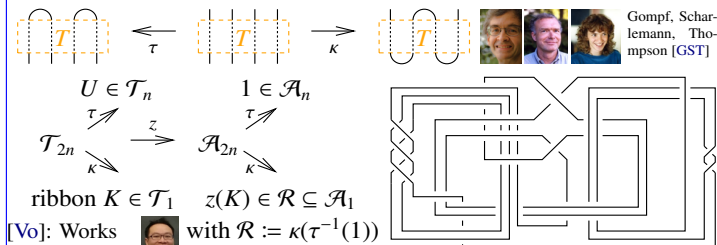
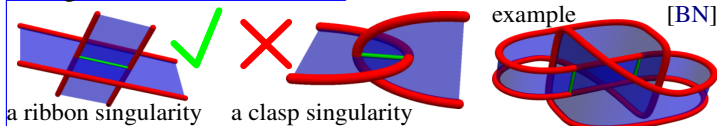
**Experimental Analysis** ([oebf/Exp](#)). Log-log plots of computation time (sec) vs. crossing number, for all knots with up to 12 crossings (mean times) and for all torus knots with up to 48 crossings:



**Power.** On the 250 knots with at most 10 crossings, the pair  $(\omega, \rho_1)$  attains 250 distinct values, while (Khovanov, HOMFLY-PT) attains only 249 distinct values. To 11 crossings the numbers are (802, 788, 772) and to 12 they are (2978, 2883, 2786).

**Genus.** Up to 12 crossings, always  $\rho_1$  is symmetric under  $t \leftrightarrow t^{-1}$ . With  $\rho_1^+$  denoting the positive-degree part of  $\rho_1$ , always  $\deg \rho_1^+ \leq 2g - 1$ , where  $g$  is the 3-genus of  $K$  (equality for 2530 knots). This gives a lower bound on  $g$  in terms of  $\rho_1$  (conjectural, but undoubtedly true). This bound is often weaker than the Alexander bound, yet for 10 of the 12-tring Alexander failures it does give the right answer.

### Ribbon Knots.



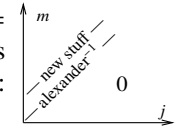
[Vo]: Works for Alexander!  $A^+ = -t^8 + 2t^7 - t^6 - 2t^4 + 5t^3 - 2t^2 - 7t + 13$   
 $\rho_1^+ = 5t^{15} - 18t^{14} + 33t^{13} - 32t^{12} + 2t^{11} + 42t^{10} - 62t^9 - 8t^8 + 166t^7 - 242t^6 + 108t^5 + 132t^4 - 226t^3 + 148t^2 - 11t - 36$   
Faster is better, leaner is meaner!

**dog·ma** (dɔg'mə, dɔg' -) The Free Dictionary, [oebf/TFD](#)  
n. pl. **dog-mas** or **dog-ma-ta** (-mə-tə)  
1. A doctrine or a corpus of doctrines relating to matters such as morality and faith, set forth in an authoritative manner by a religion.  
2. A principle or statement of ideas, or a group of such principles or statements especially when considered to be authoritative or accepted uncritically: “Much education consists in the instilling of unfounded dogmas in place of a spirit of inquiry” (Bertrand Russell).

**Theorem** ([BNG], conjectured [MM], elucidated [Ro1]). Let  $J_d(K)$  be the coloured Jones polynomial of  $K$ , in the  $d$ -dimensional representation of  $sl_2$ . Writing

$$\frac{(q^{1/2} - q^{-1/2})J_d(K)}{q^{d/2} - q^{-d/2}} \Big|_{q=e^h} = \sum_{j,m \geq 0} a_{jm}(K) d^j h^m,$$

“below diagonal” coefficients vanish,  $a_{jm}(K) = 0$  if  $j > m$ , and “on diagonal” coefficients give the inverse of the Alexander polynomial:  $(\sum_{m=0}^{\infty} a_{mm}(K) h^m) \cdot \omega(K)(e^h) = 1$ .



“Above diagonal” we have **Rozansky’s Theorem** [Ro3, (1.2)]:  
$$J_d(K)(q) = \frac{q^d - q^{-d}}{(q - q^{-1})\omega(K)(q^d)} \left( 1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(q-1)^k \rho_k(K)(q^d)}{\omega^{2k}(K)(q^d)} \right).$$

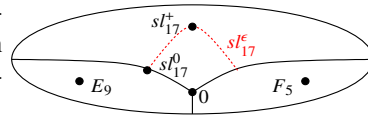
**The Yang-Baxter Technique.** Given an algebra  $A$  (typically  $\hat{\mathcal{U}}(\mathfrak{g})$  or  $\hat{\mathcal{U}}_q(\mathfrak{g})$ ) and elements  $R = \sum a_i \otimes b_i \in A \otimes A$  and  $C \in A$ , form  $Z = \sum_{i,j,k} C a_i b_j a_k C^2 b_i a_j b_k C$ .

**Problem.** Extract information from  $Z$ .

**The Dogma.** Use representation theory. In principle finite, but slow.

**The Loyal Opposition.** For certain algebras, work in a homomorphic poly-dimensional “space of formulas”.  $m_k^{ij} \{ \mathcal{F}_S \} \xrightarrow{\mathbb{E}} \{ A^{\otimes S} \} \xleftarrow{m_k^{ij}}$

**The (fake) moduli** of Lie algebras on  $V$ , a quadratic variety in  $(V^*)^{\otimes 2} \otimes V$  is on the right. We care about  $sl_{17}^k := sl_{17}^e / (e^{k+1} = 0)$ .



**Why are “solvable algebras” any good?** Contrary to common beliefs, computations in semi-simple Lie algebras are just awful:

```
ln[1]= MatrixExp [ { a b } ] // FullSimplify // MatrixForm
               { c d }
Enter

Yet in solvable algebras, exponentiation is fine and even BCH,
z = log(e^x e^y), is bearable:
ln[2]= MatrixExp [ { a b } ] // MatrixForm
               { 0 c }
Out[2]/MatrixForm=
{ e^a b (e^a - e^c) }
{ 0 a - c e^c }

ln[3]= MatrixExp [ { a1 b1 } ] . MatrixExp [ { a2 b2 } ] //
               { 0 c1 } { 0 c2 } //
MatrixLog // PowerExpand // Simplify //
MatrixForm
Enter
```

**Recomposing  $gl_n$ .** Half is enough!  $gl_n \oplus \mathfrak{a}_n = \mathcal{D}(\nabla, b, \delta)$ :  
 $b(\nabla) = b: \nabla \otimes \nabla \rightarrow \nabla$   
 $b(\Delta) \sim \delta: \nabla \rightarrow \nabla \otimes \nabla$

Now define  $gl_n^e := \mathcal{D}(\nabla, b, e\delta)$ . Schematically, this is  $[\nabla, \nabla] = \nabla$ ,  $[\Delta, \Delta] = e\Delta$ , and  $[\nabla, \Delta] = \Delta + e\nabla$ . In detail, it is

$\begin{matrix} & i & j \\ \begin{matrix} i \\ j \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} h_i & e_{ij} \\ f_{ji} & g_j \end{matrix} \end{matrix}$	$\begin{aligned} [e_{ij}, e_{kl}] &= \delta_{jk} e_{il} - \delta_{il} e_{kj} & [f_{ij}, f_{kl}] &= e\delta_{jk} f_{il} - e\delta_{il} f_{kj} \\ [e_{ij}, f_{kl}] &= \delta_{jk} (e\delta_{i < k} e_{il} + \delta_{il} (h_i + e g_i) / 2 + \delta_{i > l} f_{il}) \\ &\quad - \delta_{il} (e\delta_{k < j} e_{kj} + \delta_{kj} (h_j + e g_j) / 2 + \delta_{k > j} f_{kj}) \\ [g_i, e_{jk}] &= (\delta_{ij} - \delta_{ik}) e_{jk} & [h_i, e_{jk}] &= \epsilon(\delta_{ij} - \delta_{ik}) e_{jk} \\ [g_i, f_{jk}] &= (\delta_{ij} - \delta_{ik}) f_{jk} & [h_i, f_{jk}] &= \epsilon(\delta_{ij} - \delta_{ik}) f_{jk} \end{aligned}$
--	--

**The  $s/2$  Example.** Let  $g^\epsilon = \langle h, e, l, f \rangle / ([h, \cdot] = 0, [e, l] = -e, [f, l] = f, [e, f] = h - 2\epsilon l)$  and let  $g_k = g^\epsilon / (\epsilon^{k+1} = 0)$ .

**The Main  $g_k$  Theorem.** The  $g_k$ -invariant of any  $S$ -component tangle  $T$  can be written in the form

$$Z(T) = \mathbb{O} \left( \omega e^{L+Q+P} : \bigotimes_{i \in S} e_i l_i f_i \right),$$

where  $\omega$  is a scalar (meaning, a rational function in the variables  $h_i$  and their exponentials  $t_i := e^{h_i}$ ), where  $L = \sum a_{ij} h_i l_j$  is a balanced quadratic in the variables  $h_i$  and  $l_j$  with integer coefficients, where  $Q = \sum b_{ij} e_i f_j$  is a balanced quadratic in the variables  $e_i$  and  $f_j$  with scalar coefficients  $b_{ij}$ , and where  $P$  is a polynomial in  $\{\epsilon, e_i, l_i, f_i\}$  (with scalar coefficients) whose  $\epsilon^d$ -term is of degree at most  $2d + 2$  in  $\{e_i, \sqrt{l_i}, f_i\}$ . Furthermore, after setting  $h_i = h$  and  $t_i = t$  for all  $i$ , the invariant  $Z(T)$  is poly-time computable.

**The Main  $g_k$  Lemma.** The following “re-ordering relations” hold:

$$\mathbb{O} \left( e^{\gamma l + \beta e} : le \right) = \mathbb{O} \left( e^{\gamma l + \epsilon \gamma \beta e} : el \right) \quad (\text{and similarly for } fl \rightarrow lf),$$

$$\mathbb{O} \left( e^{\beta e + \alpha f + \delta \epsilon f} : fe \right) = \mathbb{O} \left( v e^{v(-\alpha \beta h + \beta e + \alpha f + \delta \epsilon f) + \lambda_k(\epsilon, e, l, f, \alpha, \beta, \delta)} : elf \right),$$

with  $v = (1 + h\delta)^{-1}$  and where  $\lambda_k(\epsilon, e, l, f, \alpha, \beta, \delta)$  is some fixed polynomial of degree at most  $2k + 2$  in  $\epsilon, e, \sqrt{l}, f, \alpha, \beta, \delta$ , with scalar coefficients.

**Demo Programs.**

**CF** [ $\mathcal{E}_-$ ] := **Module** [ $\{\text{vars} = \text{Union@Cases}[\mathcal{E}, e\_ | l\_ | f\_ , \infty]\}$ ,

**If** [ $\text{vars} == \{\}$ , **Factor** [ $\mathcal{E}$ ],

**Total** [**CoefficientRules** [ $\mathcal{E}$ ,  $\text{vars}$ ] /.

$(p\_ \rightarrow c\_ ) \Rightarrow \text{Factor}[c] \text{ Times} @@ (\text{vars}^p) ] ] ]$ ;

**CF** [ $\mathcal{E}_E$ ] := **CF** /@  $\mathcal{E}$ ;

**E** [ $i\_ , j\_ , s\_$ ] := **E** [ $1, (-1)^s l_j, (-t)^s e_i f_j,$

$t^s e_i l_{(1+s) i-s j} f_j + (-1)^s l_i l_j + (-t^2)^s e_i^2 f_j^2 / 4$ ];

**E** [ $i\_ , s\_$ ] := **E** [ $1, \theta, \theta, s l_i$ ];

**E** /: **E** [ $1, L1\_ , Q1\_ , P1\_$ ] **E** [ $1, L2\_ , Q2\_ , P2\_$ ] :=

**E** [ $1, L1 + L2, Q1 + Q2, P1 + P2$ ];

$z1 = (\text{E}[1, 11, \theta] \text{E}[4, 2, -1] \text{E}[15, 5, \theta] \times$  **Preparing the Trefoil**

$\text{E}[6, 8, -1] \text{E}[9, 16, \theta] \text{E}[12, 14, -1] \times$

$\text{E}[3, -1] \text{E}[7, +1] \text{E}[10, -1] \text{E}[13, +1])$

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{E} \left[ 1, -l_2 + l_5 - l_8 + l_{11} - l_{14} + l_{16}, \right. \\ & - \frac{e_4 f_2}{t} + e_{15} f_5 - \frac{e_6 f_8}{t} + e_1 f_{11} - \frac{e_{12} f_{14}}{t} + e_9 f_{16}, \\ & - \frac{e_4^2 f_2^2}{4 t^2} + \frac{1}{4} e_{15}^2 f_5^2 - \frac{e_6^2 f_8^2}{4 t^2} + \frac{1}{4} e_1^2 f_{11}^2 - \frac{e_{12}^2 f_{14}^2}{4 t^2} + \frac{1}{4} e_9^2 f_{16}^2 + e_1 f_{11} l_1 + \\ & \left. \frac{e_4 f_2 l_2}{t} - l_3 - l_2 l_4 + l_7 + \frac{e_6 f_8 l_8}{t} - l_6 l_8 + e_9 f_{16} l_9 - l_{10} + \right. \\ & \left. l_1 l_{11} + l_{13} + \frac{e_{12} f_{14} l_{14}}{t} - l_{12} l_{14} + e_{15} f_5 l_{15} + l_5 l_{15} + l_9 l_{16} \right] \end{aligned}$$

**DP**  $x\_ \rightarrow \partial_{\alpha}, y\_ \rightarrow \partial_{\beta}$  [ $P_-$ ] [ $f_-$ ] := **Differential Polynomials**

**Total** [**CoefficientRules** [ $P, \{x, y\}$ ] /. (Implementing  $P(\partial_{\alpha}, \partial_{\beta})(f)$ )

$(\{m\_ , n\_ \} \rightarrow c\_ ) \Rightarrow c \text{ D}[f, \{\alpha, m\}, \{\beta, n\}] ] ]$

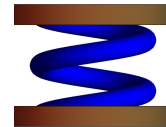
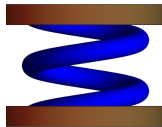


diagram	$n_k^t$ Alexander's $\omega^+$ Today's / Rozansky's $\rho_1^+$	genus / ribbon unknotting number / amphicheiral	diagram	$n_k^t$ Alexander's $\omega^+$ Today's / Rozansky's $\rho_1^+$	genus / ribbon unknotting number / amphicheiral
	$0_1^a$ 0	1 0 / ✓		$3_1^a$ $t$	$t - 1$ 1 / ✗
	$4_1^a$ 0	$3 - t$ 1 / ✗ 1 / ✓		$5_1^a$ $2t^3 + 3t$	$t^2 - t + 1$ 2 / ✗ 2 / ✗



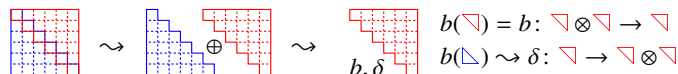
# What else can you do with solvable approximations?

Thanks for the invitation!



**Abstract.** Recently, Roland van der Veen and myself found that there are sequences of solvable Lie algebras “converging” to any given semi-simple Lie algebra (such as  $sl_2$  or  $sl_3$  or  $E_8$ ). Certain computations are much easier in solvable Lie algebras; in particular, using solvable approximations we can compute in polynomial time certain projections (originally discussed by Rozansky) of the knot invariants arising from the Chern-Simons-Witten topological quantum field theory. This provides us with the first strong knot invariants that are computable for truly large knots. But  $sl_2$  and  $sl_3$  and similar algebras occur in physics (and in mathematics) in many other places, beyond the Chern-Simons-Witten theory. Do solvable approximations have further applications?

**Recomposing  $gl_n$ .** Half is enough!  $gl_n \oplus \mathfrak{a}_n = \mathcal{D}(\nabla, b, \delta)$ :



Now define  $gl_n^\epsilon := \mathcal{D}(\nabla, b, \epsilon\delta)$ . Schematically, this is  $[\nabla, \nabla] = \nabla$ ,  $[\Delta, \Delta] = \epsilon\Delta$ , and  $[\nabla, \Delta] = \Delta + \epsilon\nabla$ . In detail, it is

$i$	$j$	$[e_{ij}, e_{kl}] = \delta_{jk}e_{il} - \delta_{il}e_{kj}$	$[f_{ij}, f_{kl}] = \epsilon\delta_{jk}f_{il} - \epsilon\delta_{il}f_{kj}$
$i$	$i$	$[e_{ij}, f_{kl}] = \delta_{jk}(\epsilon\delta_{j < k}e_{il} + \delta_{il}(h_i + \epsilon g_i)/2 + \delta_{i > l}f_{il})$	
$j$	$j$	$[g_i, e_{jk}] = (\delta_{ij} - \delta_{ik})e_{jk}$	$[h_i, e_{jk}] = \epsilon(\delta_{ij} - \delta_{ik})e_{jk}$
		$[g_i, f_{jk}] = (\delta_{ij} - \delta_{ik})f_{jk}$	$[h_i, f_{jk}] = \epsilon(\delta_{ij} - \delta_{ik})f_{jk}$

**Solvable Approximation.** At  $\epsilon = 1$  and modulo  $h = g$ , the above is just  $gl_n$ . By rescaling at  $\epsilon \neq 0$ ,  $gl_n^\epsilon$  is independent of  $\epsilon$ . We let  $gl_n^k$  be  $gl_n^\epsilon$  regarded as an algebra over  $\mathbb{Q}[\epsilon]/\epsilon^{k+1} = 0$ . It is the “ $k$ -smidgen solvable approximation” of  $gl_n$ !

Recall that  $\mathfrak{g}$  is “solvable” if iterated commutators in it ultimately vanish:  $\mathfrak{g}_2 := [\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{g}]$ ,  $\mathfrak{g}_3 := [\mathfrak{g}_2, \mathfrak{g}_2]$ ,  $\dots$ ,  $\mathfrak{g}_d = 0$ . Equivalently, if it is a subalgebra of some large-size  $\nabla$  algebra.

**Note.** This whole process makes sense for arbitrary semi-simple Lie algebras.

**Why are “solvable algebras” any good?** Contrary to common beliefs, computations in semi-simple Lie algebras are just awful:

```
In[1]:= MatrixExp[{{a, b}, {c, d}}] // FullSimplify // MatrixForm
```

Yet in solvable algebras, exponentiation is fine and even BCH,  $z = \log(e^x e^y)$ , is bearable:

```
In[2]:= MatrixExp[{{a, b}, {0, c}}] // MatrixForm
```

```
In[3]:= MatrixExp[{{a1, b1}, {0, c1}}].MatrixExp[{{a2, b2}, {0, c2}}] // MatrixLog // PowerExpand // Simplify // MatrixForm
```

**Question.** What else can you do with solvable approximation? Chern-Simons-Witten theory is often “solved” using ideas from conformal field theory and using quantization of various moduli spaces. Does it make sense to use solvable approximation there too? Elsewhere in physics? Elsewhere in mathematics?

**See Also.** Talks at George Washington University [ωεβ/gwu], Indiana [ωεβ/ind], and Les Diablerets [ωεβ/ld], and a University of Toronto “Algebraic Knot Theory” class [ωεβ/akt].

**Chern-Simons-Witten.** Given a knot  $\gamma(t)$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  and a metrized Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$ , set  $Z(\gamma) := \int_{A \in \Omega^1(\mathbb{R}^3, \mathfrak{g})} DA e^{ik cs(A)} PExp_\gamma(A)$ ,

where  $cs(A) := \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \text{tr}(AdA + \frac{2}{3}A^3)$  and

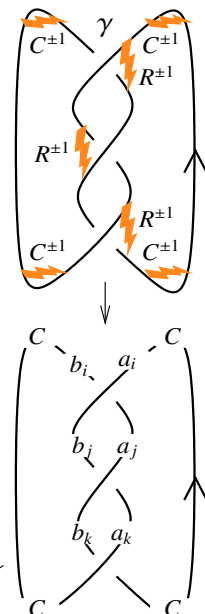
$$PExp_\gamma(A) := \prod_0^1 \exp(\gamma^* A) \in \mathcal{U} = \hat{\mathcal{U}}(\mathfrak{g}),$$

and  $\mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g}) := \langle \text{words in } \mathfrak{g} \rangle / (xy - yx = [x, y])$ . In a favourable gauge, one may hope that this computation will localize near the crossings and the bends, and all will depend on just two quantities,

$$R = \sum a_i \otimes b_i \in \mathcal{U} \otimes \mathcal{U} \quad \text{and} \quad C \in \mathcal{U}.$$

This was never done formally, yet  $R$  and  $C$  can be “guessed” and all “quantum knot invariants” arise in this way. So for the trefoil,

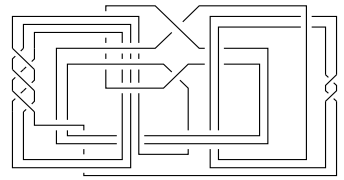
$$Z = \sum_{i,j,k} C a_i b_j a_k C^2 b_i a_j b_k C.$$



But  $Z$  lives in  $\mathcal{U}$ , a complicated space. How do you extract information out of it?

**Solution 1, Representation Theory.** Choose a finite dimensional representation  $\rho$  of  $\mathfrak{g}$  in some vector space  $V$ . By luck and the wisdom of Drinfel’d and Jimbo,  $\rho(R) \in V^* \otimes V^* \otimes V \otimes V$  and  $\rho(C) \in V^* \otimes V$  are computable, so  $Z$  is computable too. But in exponential time!

Ribbon=Slice?



**Solution 2, Solvable Approximation.** Work directly in  $\hat{\mathcal{U}}(\mathfrak{g}_k)$ , where  $\mathfrak{g}_k = sl_2^k$  (or a similar algebra); everything is expressible using low-degree polynomials in a small number of variables, hence everything is poly-time computable!

**Example 0.** Take  $\mathfrak{g}_0 = sl_2^0 = \mathbb{Q}\langle h, e, l, f \rangle$ , with  $h$  central and  $[f, l] = f$ ,  $[e, l] = -e$ ,  $[e, f] = h$ . In it, using normal orderings,

$$R = \mathbb{O} \left( \exp \left( hl + \frac{e^h - 1}{h} ef \right) \mid e \otimes lf \right), \quad \text{and,}$$

$$\mathbb{O} \left( e^{\delta ef} \mid fe \right) = \mathbb{O} \left( \nu e^{\nu \delta ef} \mid ef \right) \quad \text{with } \nu = (1 + h\delta)^{-1}.$$

**Example 1.** Take  $R = \mathbb{Q}[\epsilon]/(\epsilon^2 = 0)$  and  $\mathfrak{g}_1 = sl_2^1 = R\langle h, e, l, f \rangle$ , with  $h$  central and  $[f, l] = f$ ,  $[e, l] = -e$ ,  $[e, f] = h - 2\epsilon l$ . In it,

$$\mathbb{O} \left( e^{\delta ef} \mid fe \right) = \mathbb{O} \left( \nu(1 + \epsilon\nu\delta\Lambda/2) e^{\nu\delta ef} \mid elf \right), \quad \text{where } \Lambda \text{ is}$$

**Fact.** Setting  $h_i = h$  (for all  $i$ ) and  $t = e^h$ , the  $\mathfrak{g}_1$  invariant of any tangle  $T$  can be written in the form

$$Z_{\mathfrak{g}_1}(T) = \mathbb{O} \left( \omega^{-1} e^{hL + \omega^{-1} Q} (1 + \epsilon\omega^{-4} P) \mid \bigotimes_i e_i l_i f_i \right),$$

where  $L$  is linear,  $Q$  quadratic, and  $P$  quartic in the  $\{e_i, l_i, f_i\}$  with  $\omega$  and all coefficients polynomials in  $t$ . Furthermore, everything is poly-time computable.

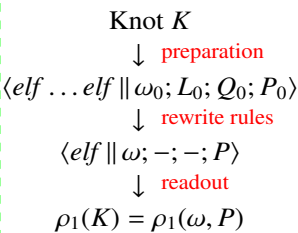


# On Elves and Invariants

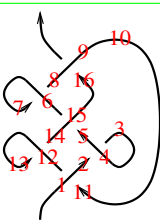
**Abstract.** Whether or not you like the formulas on this page, they describe the strongest truly computable knot invariant we know.

**Three steps** to the computation of  $\rho_1$ :

- 1. Preparation.** Given  $K$ , results  $\langle \text{long word} \parallel \text{simple formulas} \rangle$ .
- 2. Rewrite rules.** Make the word simpler and the formulas more complicated, until the word "elf" is reached.
- 3. Readout.** The invariant  $\rho_1$  is read from the last formulas.



**Preparation.** Draw  $K$  using a 0-framed 0-rotation planar diagram  $D$  where all crossings are pointing up. Walk along  $D$  labeling features by  $1, \dots, m$  in order: over-passes, under-passes, and right-heading cups and caps ("±-cuaps"). If  $x$  is a xing, let  $i_x$  and  $j_x$  be the labels on its over/under strands, and let  $s_x$  be 0 if it right-handed and  $-1$  otherwise. If  $c$  is a cuap, let  $i_c$  be its label and  $s_c$  be its sign. Set



$$(L; Q; P) = \sum_{x: (i,j,s)} (-)^s \left( l_j; t^s e_i f_j; (-t)^s e_i l_{(1+s)i-sj} f_j + l_i l_j + \frac{t^{2s} e_i^2 f_j^2}{4} \right) + \sum_{c: (i,s)} (0; 0; s \cdot l_i).$$

This done, output  $\langle e_1 l_1 f_1 e_2 l_2 f_2 \dots e_m l_m f_m \parallel 1; L; Q; P \rangle$ .

**In formulas.**  $L$  is always  $\mathbb{Z}$ -linear in  $\{l_i\}$ ,  $Q$  is an  $R$ -linear combination of  $\{e_i f_j\}$  where  $R := \mathbb{Q}[t^{\pm 1}]$ , and  $P$  is an  $R$ -linear combination of  $\{1, l_i, l_i l_j, e_i f_j, e_i l_j f_k, e_i e_j f_k f_l\}$ . (The key to computability!)

**Rewrite Rules.** Manipulate  $\langle \text{word} \parallel \text{formulas} \rangle$  expressions using the rewrite rules below, until you come to the form  $\langle e_1 l_1 f_1 \parallel \omega; -; -; P \rangle$ . Output  $(\omega, P)$ .

**Rule 1, Deletions.** If a letter appears in word but not in formulas, you can delete it.

**Rule 2, Merges.** In word, you can replace adjacent  $v_i v_j$  with  $v_k$  (for  $v \in \{e, l, f\}$ ) while making the same changes in formulas (provided  $k$  creates no naming clashes). E.g.,

$$\langle \dots e_i e_j \dots \parallel Z \rangle \rightarrow \langle \dots e_k \dots \parallel Z|_{e_i, e_j \rightarrow e_k} \rangle.$$

**Rule 3, le Sorts.** Provided  $k$  introduces no clashes, given  $\langle \dots l_j e_i \dots \parallel \omega; L; Q; P \rangle$ , decompose  $L = \lambda l_j + L'$ ,  $Q = \alpha e_i + Q'$ , write  $P = P(e_i, l_j)$  (with messy coefficients), set  $q = e^\gamma \beta e_k + \gamma l_k$ , and output

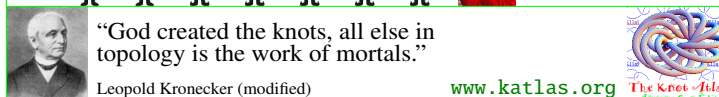
$$\langle \dots e_k l_k \dots \parallel \omega; L|_{l_j \rightarrow l_k}; t^\lambda \alpha e_k + Q'; e^{-q} P(\partial_\beta, \partial_\gamma) e^q |_{\beta \rightarrow \alpha/\omega, \gamma \rightarrow \lambda \log t} \rangle.$$

**Rule 4, fl Sorts.** Provided  $k$  introduces no clashes, given  $\langle \dots f_i l_j \dots \parallel \omega; L; Q; P \rangle$ , decompose  $L = \lambda l_j + L'$ ,  $Q = \alpha f_i + Q'$ , write  $P = P(f_i, l_j)$  (with messy coefficients), set  $q = e^\gamma \beta f_k + \gamma l_k$ , and output

$$\langle \dots l_k f_k \dots \parallel \omega; L|_{l_j \rightarrow l_k}; t^\lambda \alpha f_k + Q'; e^{-q} P(\partial_\beta, \partial_\gamma) e^q |_{\beta \rightarrow \alpha/\omega, \gamma \rightarrow \lambda \log t} \rangle.$$



Happy Birthday, Scott!



"God created the knots, all else in topology is the work of mortals."

Leopold Kronecker (modified)

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**Rule 5, fe Sorts.** Provided  $k$  introduces no clashes, given  $\langle \dots f_i e_j \dots \parallel \omega; L; Q; P \rangle$ , decompose  $Q = Q_{fe} f_i e_j + Q_{fj} f_i + Q_{ee} e_j + Q'$  write  $P = P(f_i, e_j)$  (with messy coefficients), set  $\mu = 1 + (t-1)\delta$  and  $q = ((1-t)\alpha\beta + \beta e_k + \alpha f_k + \delta e_k f_k)/\mu$ , and output

$$\left\langle \dots e_k f_k \dots \parallel \begin{matrix} \mu\omega; L; \mu\omega q + \mu Q'; \\ \omega^4 \Lambda_k + e^{-q} P(\partial_\alpha, \partial_\beta) (e^q) \end{matrix} \right\rangle \Big|_{\substack{\alpha \rightarrow Q_{fj}/\omega, \beta \rightarrow Q_{ee}/\omega, \\ \delta \rightarrow Q_{fe}/\omega}}$$

where  $\Lambda_k$  is the Λόγος, "a principle of order and knowledge":

$$\Lambda_k = \frac{t+1}{4} \left( -\delta(\mu+1)(\beta^2 e_k^2 + \alpha^2 f_k^2) - \delta^3(3\mu+1)e_k^2 f_k^2 - 2(\beta e_k + \alpha f_k)(\alpha\beta + 2\delta\mu + \delta^2(2\mu+1)e_k f_k + 2\delta\mu^2 l_k) - 4(\alpha\beta + \delta\mu)(\delta(\mu+1)e_k f_k + \mu^2 l_k) - 4\delta^2 \mu^2 e_k f_k l_k + (t-1)(2(\alpha\beta + \delta\mu)^2 - \alpha^2 \beta^2) \right).$$

**elf merges,**  $m_k^{ij}$ , are defined as compositions

$$e_i l_i \overline{f_i e_j} l_j f_j \xrightarrow{S_x^{f_i e_j}} e_i \overline{l_i e_x} \overline{f_x l_j} f_j \xrightarrow{S_x^{l_i e_x} // S_x^{f_x l_j}} \overline{e_i e_x} \overline{l_x l_x} \overline{f_x f_j} \xrightarrow{i, j, x \rightarrow k} e_k l_k f_k$$

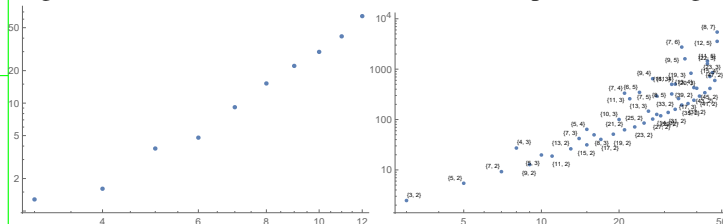
**Readout.** Given  $\langle \text{elf} \parallel \omega; -; -; P \rangle$ , output

$$\rho_1(K) := \frac{t(P|_{e, l, f \rightarrow 0} - t\omega^3)}{(t-1)^2 \omega^2}.$$

( $\omega$  is the Alexander polynomial,  $L$  and  $Q$  are not interesting).



**Experimental Analysis (ωεβ/Exp).** Log-log plots of computation time (sec) vs. crossing number, for all knots with up to 12 crossings (mean times) and for all torus knots with up to 48 crossings:



**Power.** On the 250 knots with at most 10 crossings, the pair  $(\omega, \rho_1)$  attains 250 distinct values, while (Khovanov, HOMFLY-PT) attains only 249 distinct values. To 11 crossings the numbers are (802, 788, 772) and to 12 they are (2978, 2883, 2786).

**Genus.** Up to 12 xings, always  $\rho_1$  is symmetric under  $t \leftrightarrow t^{-1}$ . With  $\rho_1^+$  denoting the positive-degree part of  $\rho_1$ , always  $\deg \rho_1^+ \leq 2g - 1$ , where  $g$  is the 3-genus of  $K$  (equality for 2530 knots). This gives a lower bound on  $g$  in terms of  $\rho_1$  (conjectural, but undoubtedly true). This bound is often weaker than the Alexander bound, yet for 10 of the 12-xing Alexander failures it does give the right answer.

**Why Works?** The Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}_1$  (below) is a "solvable approximation of  $\mathfrak{sl}_2$ ".

**Theorem.** The map (as defined below)

$\langle w \parallel \omega; L; Q; P \rangle \mapsto \mathbb{O} \left( \omega^{-1} e^{L \log t + \omega^{-1} Q} (1 + \epsilon \omega^{-4} P) : w \right) \in \hat{\mathcal{U}}(\mathfrak{g}_1)$  is well defined modulo the sorting rules. It maps the initial preparation to a product of "R-matrices" and "cuap values" satisfying the usual moves for Morse knots (R3, etc.). (And hence the result is a "quantum invariant", except computed very differently; no representation theory!).

**1-Smidgen  $sl_2$**  Let  $\mathfrak{g}_1$  be the 4-dimensional Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}_1 = \langle h, e', l, f \rangle$  over the ring  $R = \mathbb{Q}[\epsilon]/(\epsilon^2 = 0)$ , with  $h$  central and with  $[f, l] = f$ ,  $[e', l] = -e'$ , and  $[e', f] = h - 2\epsilon l$ . Over  $\mathbb{Q}$ ,  $\mathfrak{g}_1$  is a **solvable approximation of  $sl_2$** :  $\mathfrak{g}_1 \supset \langle h, e', f, eh, ee', \epsilon l, \epsilon f \rangle \supset \langle h, eh, ee', \epsilon l, \epsilon f \rangle \supset 0$ . Pragmatics: declare  $\deg(h, e', l, f, \epsilon) = (1, 1, 0, 0, 1)$  and set  $t := e^h$  and  $e := (t - 1)e'/h$ .

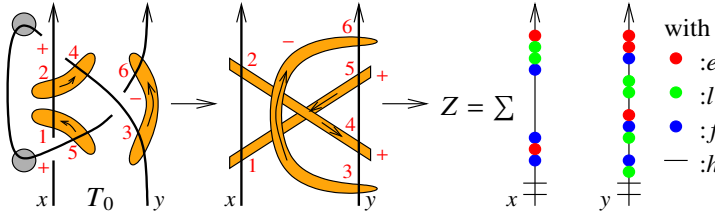
**How did it arise?**  $sl_2 = \mathfrak{b}^+ \oplus \mathfrak{b}^-/\mathfrak{h} =: sl_2^+/\mathfrak{h}$ , where  $\mathfrak{b}^+ = \langle l, f \rangle/[f, l] = f$  is a Lie bialgebra with  $\delta: \mathfrak{b}^+ \rightarrow \mathfrak{b}^+ \otimes \mathfrak{b}^+$  by  $\delta: (l, f) \mapsto (0, l \wedge f)$ . Going back,  $sl_2^+ = \mathcal{D}(\mathfrak{b}^+) = (\mathfrak{b}^+)^* \oplus \mathfrak{b}^+ = \langle h', e', l, f \rangle/\dots$ . **Idea.** Replace  $\delta \rightarrow \epsilon\delta$  over  $\mathbb{Q}[\epsilon]/(\epsilon^{k+1} = 0)$ . At  $k = 1$ , get  $[f, l] = f$ ,  $[f, h'] = -\epsilon f$ ,  $[l, e'] = e'$ ,  $[h', e'] = -\epsilon e'$ ,  $[h', l] = 0$ , and  $[e', f] = h' - \epsilon l$ . Now note that  $h' + \epsilon l$  is central, so switch to  $h := h' + \epsilon l$ . This is  $\mathfrak{g}_1$ .

**Ordering Symbols.**  $\odot$  (*poly* | *specs*) plants the variables of *poly* in  $\hat{S}(\oplus_{\mathfrak{g}})$  along  $\hat{U}(\mathfrak{g})$  according to *specs*. E.g.,

$$\odot(e_1 e^{\epsilon^3} l_1^3 l_2 f_3^9 | f_3 l_1 e_1 e_3 l_2) = f^9 l^3 e e^{\epsilon} l \in \hat{U}(\mathfrak{g}).$$

This enables the description of elements of  $\hat{U}(\mathfrak{g})$  using commutative polynomials / power series. In  $\mathfrak{g}_1$ , no need to specify  $h/t$ .

**Algebras and Invariants.** Given any unital algebra  $A$  (even better if  $A$  is Hopf; typically,  $A \sim \hat{U}(\mathfrak{g})$ ), appropriate **orange**  $R \in A \otimes A$ , and appropriate cuaps  $\in A$ , get an  $A^{\otimes S}$ -valued invariant of pure  $S$ -component tangles:



**What we didn't say** (more, including videos, in  $\omega\epsilon\beta$ /Talks).

- $\rho_1$  is “line” in the coloured Jones polynomial; related to Melvin-Morton-Rozansky.
- $\rho_1$  extends to “rotational virtual tangles” and is a projection of the universal finite type invariant of such.
- $\rho_1$  seems to have a better chance than anything else we know to detect a counterexample to slice=ribbon.
- $\rho_1$  leads to many questions and a very long to-do list. Years of work, many papers ahead. Have fun!

**Demo Programs.**

```

 $\omega\epsilon\beta$ /Demo
CF [E_] := Module[{vars = Union@Cases[E, e_ | 1_ | f_, \infty]},
  If[vars === {}, Factor[E],
    Total[CoefficientRules[E, vars] /.
      (p_ -> c_) => Factor[c] Times @@ (vars^p) ] ];
CF [E_#] := CF /@ E;
E [i_, j_, s_] := E [1, (-1)^s 1_j, (-t)^s e_i f_j,
  t^s e_i 1_{(1+s) i-s j} f_j + (-1)^s 1_i 1_j + (-t^2)^s e_i^2 f_j^2 / 4];
E [i_, s_] := E [1, \theta, \theta, s 1_i];
E /: E [1, L1_, Q1_, P1_] E [1, L2_, Q2_, P2_] :=
  E [1, L1 + L2, Q1 + Q2, P1 + P2];

```

**z1 =** ( $\mathbb{E}[1, 11, \theta]$   $\mathbb{E}[4, 2, -1]$   $\mathbb{E}[15, 5, \theta]$  **Preparing the Trefoil**  
 $\mathbb{E}[6, 8, -1]$   $\mathbb{E}[9, 16, \theta]$   $\mathbb{E}[12, 14, -1]$   $\mathbb{E}[3, -1]$   $\mathbb{E}[7, +1]$   
 $\mathbb{E}[10, -1]$   $\mathbb{E}[13, +1]$ )

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ 1, -l_2 + l_5 - l_8 + l_{11} - l_{14} + l_{16}, \right. \\ \left. - \frac{e_4 f_2}{t} + e_{15} f_5 - \frac{e_6 f_8}{t} + e_1 f_{11} - \frac{e_{12} f_{14}}{t} + e_9 f_{16}, \right. \\ \left. - \frac{e_2^2 f_2^2}{4 t^2} + \frac{1}{4} e_{15}^2 f_5^2 - \frac{e_6^2 f_8^2}{4 t^2} + \frac{1}{4} e_1^2 f_{11}^2 - \frac{e_{12}^2 f_{14}^2}{4 t^2} + \frac{1}{4} e_9^2 f_{16}^2 + e_1 f_{11} l_1 + \right. \\ \left. \frac{e_4 f_2 l_2}{t} - l_3 - l_2 l_4 + l_7 + \frac{e_6 f_8 l_8}{t} - l_6 l_8 + e_9 f_{16} l_9 - l_{10} + \right. \\ \left. l_1 l_{11} + l_{13} + \frac{e_{12} f_{14} l_{14}}{t} - l_{12} l_{14} + e_{15} f_5 l_{15} + l_5 l_{15} + l_9 l_{16} \right]$$

**DP** <sub>$x \rightarrow \partial_\alpha, y \rightarrow \partial_\beta$</sub>  [ $P_-$ ] [ $f_-$ ] := **Differential Polynomials**  
**Total**[**CoefficientRules**[ $P, \{x, y\}$ ] /. (Implementing  $P(\partial_\alpha, \partial_\beta)(f)$ )  
 ( $\{m_-, n_-\} \rightarrow c_-$ ) =>  $c \mathcal{D}[f, \{\alpha, m\}, \{\beta, n\}]$ ]

**S** <sub>$1_j$</sub>  ( $x: e | f$ ) <sub>$i \rightarrow k_-$</sub>  [ $\mathbb{E}[\omega_-, L_-, Q_-, P_-]$ ] := **le and fl Sorts**  
**With** [ $\{\lambda = \partial_{1_j} L, \alpha = \partial_{x_i} Q, q = e^y \beta x_k + \gamma 1_k\}$ , **CF** [ $\mathbb{E}[\omega, L / . 1_j \rightarrow 1_k, t^\lambda \alpha x_k + (Q / . x_i \rightarrow \theta),$   
 $e^{-q} \text{DP}_{1_j \rightarrow \partial_\alpha, x_i \rightarrow \partial_\beta} [P] [e^q] / . \{\beta \rightarrow \alpha / \omega, \gamma \rightarrow \lambda \text{Log}[t]\}$  ] ]];

$$\Delta [k_-] := (t - 1) (2 (\alpha \beta + \delta \mu)^2 - \alpha^2 \beta^2) - 4 e_k 1_k f_k \delta^2 \mu^2 - \\ \delta (1 + \mu) (f_k^2 \alpha^2 + e_k^2 \beta^2) - e_k^2 f_k^2 \delta^3 (1 + 3 \mu) - \text{The } \Delta \text{ } \omega \gamma \delta \\ 2 (\alpha \beta + 2 \delta \mu + e_k f_k \delta^2 (1 + 2 \mu) + 2 1_k \delta \mu^2) (f_k \alpha + e_k \beta) - \\ 4 (1_k \mu^2 + e_k f_k \delta (1 + \mu)) (\alpha \beta + \delta \mu) (1 + t) / 4;$$

**S** <sub>$f_i e_j \rightarrow k_-$</sub>  [ $\mathbb{E}[\omega_-, L_-, Q_-, P_-]$ ] := **fe Sorts**  
**With** [ $\{q = ((1 - t) \alpha \beta + \beta e_k + \alpha f_k + \delta e_k f_k) / \mu\}$ , **CF** [ $\mathbb{E}[\mu \omega, L, \mu \omega q + \mu (Q / . f_i | e_j \rightarrow \theta),$   
 $\mu^4 e^{-q} \text{DP}_{f_i \rightarrow \partial_\alpha, e_j \rightarrow \partial_\beta} [P] [e^q] + \omega^k \Delta [k_-] / . \mu \rightarrow 1 + (t - 1) \delta / .$   
 $\{\alpha \rightarrow \omega^{-1} (\partial_{f_i} Q / . e_j \rightarrow \theta), \beta \rightarrow \omega^{-1} (\partial_{e_j} Q / . f_i \rightarrow \theta),$   
 $\delta \rightarrow \omega^{-1} \partial_{f_i, e_j} Q\}$  ] ]];

**m** <sub>$i, j \rightarrow k_-$</sub>  [ $Z \text{E}$ ] := **Elf Merges**  
**CF** [ $Z // S_{f_i e_j \rightarrow x} // S_{1_i e_x \rightarrow x} // S_{f_x 1_j \rightarrow x} / . z_{-i | j | x} \rightarrow z_k$  ]]

(**Do** [ $z1 = z1 // m_{1, k+1}, \{k, 2, 16\}$ ]; **z1**) **Rewriting the Trefoil**  
 (by merging 16 elves)

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{1-t+t^2}{t}, \theta, \theta, \frac{(-1+t)(1-t+t^2)^2(1-t+t^2)}{t^3} - \right. \\ \left. \frac{2(1+t)(1-t+t^2)^3 e_1 f_1}{t^4} - \frac{2(-1+t)(1+t)(1-t+t^2)^3 1_1}{t^4} \right]$$

**Readout**  
 $\rho_1 [\mathbb{E}[\omega_-, \_, \_, P_-]] := \text{CF} \left[ \frac{t ((P / . e_- | 1_- | f_- \rightarrow \theta) - t \omega^3 (\partial_t \omega))}{(t - 1)^2 \omega^2} \right]$

$\rho_1 [z1] // \text{Expand}$   **$\rho_1(3i)$**   
 $\frac{1}{t} + t$

**References.**

[Ov] A. Overbay, *Perturbative Expansion of the Colored Jones Polynomial*, University of North Carolina PhD thesis,  $\omega\epsilon\beta$ /Ov.  
 [Ro1] L. Rozansky, *A contribution of the trivial flat connection to the Jones polynomial and Witten's invariant of 3d manifolds, I*, Comm. Math. Phys. **175-2** (1996) 275–296, arXiv:hep-th/9401061.  
 [Ro2] L. Rozansky, *The Universal R-Matrix, Burau Representation and the Melvin-Morton Expansion of the Colored Jones Polynomial*, Adv. Math. **134-1** (1998) 1–31, arXiv:q-alg/9604005.  
 [Ro3] L. Rozansky, *A Universal U(1)-RCC Invariant of Links and Rationality Conjecture*, arXiv:math/0201139.

diagram	$n_k^a$	Alexander's $\omega^+$	genus / ribbon	diagram	$n_k^a$	Alexander's $\omega^+$	genus / ribbon
		Today's / Rozansky's $\rho_1^+$	unknotting number / amphicheiral			Today's / Rozansky's $\rho_1^+$	unknotting number / amphicheiral
	0	1	0 / ✓		3	t - 1	1 / ✗
	0		0 / ✓		t		1 / ✗
	4	3 - t	1 / ✗		5	t^2 - t + 1	2 / ✗
	0		1 / ✓		2t^3 + 3t		2 / ✗



# A Poly-Time Knot Polynomial Via Solvable Approximation

Work in Progress! Fluid! Help Needed!

**Abstract.** Rozansky [Ro2] and Overbay [Ov] described a **spectacular** knot polynomial that failed to attract the attention it deserved as the first poly-time-computable knot polynomial since Alexander's [Al, 1928] and (in my opinion) as the second most likely knot polynomial (after Alexander's) to carry topological information. With Roland van der Veen, I will explain how to compute the Rozansky polynomial using some new commutator-calculus techniques and a Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}_1$  which is at the same time solvable and an approximation of the simple Lie algebra  $sl_2$ .



$U \in \mathcal{T}_n \xrightarrow{\tau} 1 \in \mathcal{A}_n$   
 $\mathcal{T}_{2n} \xrightarrow{z} \mathcal{A}_{2n}$  with  $\mathcal{R} := \kappa(\tau^{-1}(1))$   
 ribbon  $K \in \mathcal{T}_1 \quad z(K) \in \mathcal{R} \subseteq \mathcal{A}_1$   
 Faster is better, leaner is meaner!  
 $A^+ = -j^8 + 2i^7 - i^6 - 2i^4 + 5i^3 - 2i^2 - 7i + 13$   
 $\rho_1^+ = 5i^{15} - 18i^{14} + 33i^{13} - 32i^{12} + 2i^{11} + 42i^{10} - 62i^9 - 8i^8 + 166i^7 - 242i^6 + 108i^5 + 132i^4 - 226i^3 + 148i^2 - 11i - 36$

**Theorem** ([BNG], conjectured [MM], elucidated [Ro1]). Let  $J_d(K)$  be the coloured Jones polynomial of  $K$ , in the  $d$ -dimensional representation of  $sl_2$ . Writing

$$\left. \frac{(q^{1/2} - q^{-1/2})J_d(K)}{q^{d/2} - q^{-d/2}} \right|_{q=e^h} = \sum_{j,m \geq 0} a_{jm}(K) d^j h^m,$$

“below diagonal” coefficients vanish,  $a_{jm}(K) = 0$  if  $j > m$ , and “on diagonal” coefficients give the inverse of the Alexander polynomial:  $(\sum_{m=0}^{\infty} a_{mm}(K) h^m) \cdot A(K)(e^h) = 1$ .

“Above diagonal” we have **Rozansky's Theorem** [Ro3, (1.2)]:

$$J_d(K)(q) = \frac{q^d - q^{-d}}{(q - q^{-1})A(K)(q^d)} \left( 1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(q-1)^k R_k(K)(q^d)}{A^{2k}(K)(q^d)} \right).$$

**Why “spectacular”?** Foremost reason: **OBVIOUSLY**. Cf. proving (incomputable  $A$ )=(incomputable  $B$ ), or categorifying (incomputable  $C$ ). Also, will bound **genus** and may disprove **{ribbon} = {slice}**.

**(v-)Tangles.**

(meta-associativity:  $m_x^{ab} // m_y^{xc} = m_x^{bc} // m_y^{ax}$ ) (tangles are generated by  $\curvearrowright$  and  $\curvearrowleft$ )

**Genus.**

a ribbon singularity    a clasp singularity

**A bit about ribbon knots.** A “ribbon knot” is a knot that can be presented as the boundary of a disk that has “ribbon singularities”, but no “clasp singularities”. A “slice knot” is a knot in  $S^3 = \partial B^4$  which is the boundary of a non-singular disk in  $B^4$ . Every ribbon knots is clearly slice, yet,

**Conjecture.** Some slice knots are not ribbon.

**Fox-Milnor.** The Alexander polynomial of a ribbon knot is always of the form  $A(t) = f(t)f(1/t)$ . (also for slice)



“God created the knots, all else in topology is the work of mortals.”

Leopold Kronecker (modified)

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**The Gold Standard** is set by the “T-calculus” Alexander formulas [BNS, BN1]. An  $S$ -component tangle  $T$  has

$$\Gamma(T) \in R_S \times M_{S \times S}(R_S) = \left\{ \begin{array}{c|c} \omega & S \\ \hline S & A \end{array} \right\} \text{ with } R_S := \mathbb{Z}\langle t_a : a \in S \rangle$$

$$(a \curvearrowright b, b \curvearrowleft a) \rightarrow \begin{array}{c|cc} 1 & a & b \\ \hline a & 1 & 1 - t_a^{\pm 1} \\ b & 0 & t_a^{\pm 1} \end{array} \quad T_1 \sqcup T_2 \rightarrow \begin{array}{c|cc} \omega_1 \omega_2 & S_1 & S_2 \\ \hline S_1 & A_1 & 0 \\ S_2 & 0 & A_2 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c|ccc} \omega & a & b & S \\ \hline a & \alpha & \beta & \theta \\ b & \gamma & \delta & \epsilon \\ S & \phi & \psi & \Xi \end{array} \xrightarrow{m_c^{ab}} \begin{array}{c|ccc} (1-\beta)\omega & c & S \\ \hline c & \gamma + \frac{\alpha\delta}{1-\beta} & \epsilon + \frac{\delta\theta}{1-\beta} \\ S & \phi + \frac{\alpha\psi}{1-\beta} & \Xi + \frac{\psi\theta}{1-\beta} \end{array}$$

(Roland: “add to  $A$  the product of column  $b$  and row  $a$ , divide by  $(1 - A_{ab})$ , delete column  $b$  and row  $a$ .”)

For long knots,  $\omega$  is Alexander, and that's the fastest Alexander algorithm I know! Dunfield: 1000-crossing fast.

(There are also formulas for strand doubling and strand reversal).

**Theorem** [EK, Ha, En, Se]. There is a “homomorphic expansion”

$$\mathcal{Z}: \left\{ \begin{array}{l} S\text{-component} \\ (v/b)\text{-tangles} \end{array} \right\} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_S^v :=$$

$AS: \text{Y-junction} + \text{X-junction} = 0$   
 $STU: \text{strand crossing} = \text{strand crossing} - \text{strand crossing}$   
 $IHX: \text{strand crossing} = \text{strand crossing} - \text{strand crossing}$

**Algebras and Invariants.** Given any unital algebra  $A$  (even better if  $A$  is Hopf; typically,  $A \sim \hat{U}(\mathfrak{g})$ ), appropriate orange  $R \in A \otimes A$ , and appropriate cuaps  $\epsilon \in A$ , get an  $A^{\otimes S}$ -valued invariant of pure  $S$ -component tangles:

with  $\bullet : c$ ,  $\circ : u$ ,  $\text{---} : w$ ,  $\text{---} : b$

**Good News.** In theory, enough to know  $R$ , the cuaps, and stitching/multiplication  $m_k^{ij}: A_i \otimes A_j \rightarrow A_k$ .

**Problem.** Extract information out of  $Z$ .

**Textbook Solution.** Use representation theory ... works, slowly.

**Today's Solution** (with van der Veen). For some specific  $\mathfrak{g}$ 's, work in a space of “formulas of a specific type” for elements of  $\hat{U}(\mathfrak{g})^{\otimes S}$ :

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{ordered perturbed} \\ \text{Gaussian formulas} \end{array} \right\} \rightarrow \hat{U}(\mathfrak{g})^{\otimes S}$$

van der Veen



**1-Smidgen  $sl_2$**  Let  $\mathfrak{g}_1$  be the 4-dimensional Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}_1 = \langle b, c, u, w \rangle$  over the ring  $R = \mathbb{Q}[\epsilon]/(\epsilon^2 = 0)$ , with  $b$  central and with  $[w, c] = w$ ,  $[c, u] = u$ , and  $[u, w] = b - 2\epsilon c$ , with CYBE  $r_{ij} = (b_i - \epsilon c_i)c_j + u_i w_j$  in  $\mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g}_1)^{\otimes(i,j)}$ . Over  $\mathbb{Q}$ ,  $\mathfrak{g}_1$  is a **solvable approximation of  $sl_2$** :  $\mathfrak{g}_1 \supset \langle b, u, w, \epsilon b, \epsilon c, \epsilon u, \epsilon w \rangle \supset \langle b, \epsilon b, \epsilon c, \epsilon u, \epsilon w \rangle \supset 0$ . (note:  $\deg(b, c, u, w, \epsilon) = (1, 0, 1, 0, 1)$ )

**0-Smidgen  $sl_2 \odot$** . Let  $\mathfrak{g}_0$  be  $\mathfrak{g}_1$  at  $\epsilon = 0$ , or  $\mathbb{Q}\langle b, c, u, w \rangle / ([b, \cdot] = 0, [c, u] = u, [c, w] = -w, [u, w] = b$  with  $r_{ij} = b_i c_j + u_i w_j$ . It is  $\mathfrak{b}^* \rtimes \mathfrak{b}$  where  $\mathfrak{b}$  is the 2D Lie algebra  $\mathbb{Q}\langle c, w \rangle$  and  $(b, u)$  is the dual basis of  $(c, w)$ . For topology, it is more valuable than  $\mathfrak{g}_1 / sl_2$ , but topology already got by other means almost everything  $\mathfrak{g}_0$  gives.

**How did these arise?**  $sl_2 = \mathfrak{b}^+ \oplus \mathfrak{b}^- / \mathfrak{h} =: sl_2^+ / \mathfrak{h}$ , where  $\mathfrak{b}^+ = \langle c, w \rangle / [w, c] = w$  is a Lie bialgebra with  $\delta: \mathfrak{b}^+ \rightarrow \mathfrak{b}^+ \otimes \mathfrak{b}^+$  by  $\delta: (c, w) \mapsto (0, c \wedge w)$ . Going back,  $sl_2^+ = \mathcal{D}(\mathfrak{b}^+) = (\mathfrak{b}^+)^* \oplus \mathfrak{b}^+ = \langle b, u, c, w \rangle / \dots$ . **Idea.** Replace  $\delta \rightarrow \epsilon \delta$  over  $\mathbb{Q}[\epsilon]/(\epsilon^{k+1} = 0)$ . At  $k = 0$ , get  $\mathfrak{g}_0$ . At  $k = 1$ , get  $[w, c] = w$ ,  $[w, b'] = -\epsilon w$ ,  $[c, u] = u$ ,  $[b', u] = -\epsilon u$ ,  $[b', c] = 0$ , and  $[u, w] = b' - \epsilon c$ . Now note that  $b' + \epsilon c$  is central, so switch to  $b := b' + \epsilon c$ . This is  $\mathfrak{g}_1$ .

**Ordering Symbols.**  $\odot$  (*poly* | *specs*) plants the variables of *poly* in  $\mathcal{S}(\otimes \mathfrak{g}_i)$  on several tensor copies of  $\mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g})$  according to *specs*. E.g.,  $\odot(c_1^3 u_1 c_2 e^{u_3} w_3^9 | x: w_3 c_1, y: u_1 u_3 c_2) = w^9 c^3 \otimes u e^u c \in \mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g})_x \otimes \mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g})_y$ . This enables the description of elements of  $\hat{\mathcal{U}}(\mathfrak{g})^{\otimes S}$  using commutative polynomials / power series.

**0-Smidgen Invariants.**  $r = Id \in \mathfrak{b}^- \otimes \mathfrak{b}^+$  solves the CYBE  $[r_{12}, r_{13}] + [r_{12}, r_{23}] + [r_{13}, r_{23}] = 0$  in  $\mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g}_0)^{\otimes 3}$  and, by luck,

$$\begin{array}{c} \nearrow \\ + \\ i \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \searrow \\ - \\ j \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \\ + \\ i \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \\ + \\ j \end{array} = R_{ij} = e^{r_{ij}} = e^{b_i c_j + u_i w_j} \in \mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g}_{0,i} \oplus \mathfrak{g}_{0,j})$$

solves YB/R3.

**Lemma.**  $R_{ij} = e^{b_i c_j + u_i w_j} = \odot(\exp(b_i c_j + \frac{e^{b_i} - 1}{b_i} u_i w_j) | i: u_i, j: c_j w_j)$

**Example.**  $Z(T_0) = \sum_{m,n} \frac{b_i^{m-n} (e^{b_i} - 1)^n}{m! n!} u^n \otimes c^m w^n$ .

$$\odot(\exp(b_5 c_1 + \frac{e^{b_5} - 1}{b_5} u_5 w_1 + b_2 c_4 + \frac{e^{b_2} - 1}{b_2} u_2 w_4 - b_3 c_6 + \frac{e^{-b_3} - 1}{b_3} u_3 w_6) | \text{“ucw form”} \\ x: c_1 w_1 u_2, y: u_3 c_4 w_4 u_5 c_6 w_6) = \odot(\zeta | x: u_x c_x w_x, y: u_y c_y w_y)$$

**Goal.** Write  $\zeta$  as a Gaussian:  $\omega e^{L+Q}$  where  $L$  bilinear in  $b_i$  and  $c_i$  with integer coefficients,  $Q$  a balanced quadratic in  $u_i$  and  $w_i$  with coefficients in  $R_S := \mathbb{Q}(b_i, e^{b_i})$ , and  $\omega \in R_S$ .

**The Big  $\mathfrak{g}_0$  Lemma.** Under  $[c, u] = u$ ,  $[c, w] = -w$ , and  $[u, w] = b$ :

- 1a.  $N^{cu} := \odot(e^{\gamma c + \beta u} | uc) \xrightarrow{\gamma} \odot(e^{\gamma c + e^{\beta} \beta u} | cu)$  (means  $e^{\beta u} e^{\gamma c} = e^{\gamma c} e^{\beta u}$ )
- 1b.  $N^{wc} := \odot(e^{\gamma c + \alpha w} | wc) \xrightarrow{\gamma} \odot(e^{\gamma c + e^{\alpha} \alpha w} | cw)$  ... in the  $(ax + b)$  group)
2.  $\odot(e^{\alpha w + \beta u} | wu) = \odot(e^{-b\alpha\beta + \alpha w + \beta u} | uw)$  (the Weyl relations)
3.  $\odot(e^{\delta u w} | wu) e^{\beta u} = e^{\gamma \beta u} \odot(e^{\delta u w} | wu)$ , with  $\gamma = (1 + b\delta)^{-1}$
- (a. expand and crunch. b. use  $w = b\hat{x}$ ,  $u = \partial_x$ . c. use “scatter and glow”.)
4.  $\odot(e^{\delta u w} | wu) = \odot(\gamma e^{\gamma \delta u w} | uw)$  (same techniques)
5.  $N^{wu} := \odot(e^{\beta u + \alpha w + \delta u w} | wu) \xrightarrow{\beta} \odot(\gamma e^{-b\alpha\beta + \gamma\alpha w + \gamma\beta u + \gamma\delta u w} | uw)$
6.  $N_k^{c_i c_j} := \odot(\zeta | c_i c_j) \xrightarrow{\gamma} \odot(\zeta / (c_i, c_j \rightarrow c_k) | c_k)$

**Sneaky.**  $\alpha$  may contain (other)  $u$ 's,  $\beta$  may contain (other)  $w$ 's.

**Strand Stitching.**  $m_k^{ij}$  is defined as the composition

$$u_i c_i \overline{w_i u_j} c_j w_j \xrightarrow{N_x^{w_i u_j}} u_i \overline{c_i u_x} \overline{w_x c_j} w_j \xrightarrow{N_x^{c_i u_x} // N_x^{w_x c_j}} \overline{u_i u_x} \overline{c_x c_x} \overline{w_x w_x} w_j \xrightarrow{i,j,x \rightarrow k} u_k c_k w_k$$

**On to 1-smidgen invariants**, where much is the same. . .

**The Big  $\mathfrak{g}_1$  Lemma.** Parts 1 and 6 are the same, yet  
 5.  $\odot(e^{\alpha w + \beta u + \delta u w} | wu) = \odot(\gamma(1 + \epsilon v \Lambda) e^{\gamma(-b\alpha\beta + \alpha w + \beta u + \delta u w)} | ucw)$   
 Here  $\Lambda$  is for  $\Lambda\acute{o}\gamma\omicron\varsigma$ , “a principle of order and knowledge”, a balanced quartic in  $\alpha, \beta, u, c$ , and  $w$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \Lambda = & -b\gamma(\alpha^2 \beta^2 \gamma^2 + 4\alpha\beta\delta\gamma + 2\delta^2)/2 + \beta^2 \delta \gamma^3 (b\delta + 2)u^2/2 \\ & + \delta^3 \gamma^3 (3b\delta + 4)u^2 w^2/2 + \beta \delta^2 \gamma^3 (2b\delta + 3)u^2 w \\ & + \alpha \delta^2 \gamma^3 (2b\delta + 3)u w^2 + 2\delta \gamma^2 (b\delta + 2)(\alpha\beta\gamma + \delta)u w \\ & + \alpha^2 \delta \gamma^3 (b\delta + 2)w^2/2 + 2(\alpha\beta\gamma + \delta)c + 2\beta\delta\gamma u c + 2\delta^2 \gamma u c w \\ & + 2\alpha\delta\gamma c w + \beta\gamma^2 (\alpha\beta\gamma + 2\delta)u + \alpha\gamma^2 (\alpha\beta\gamma + 2\delta)w. \end{aligned}$$

**Proof.** A lengthy computation. (Verification:  $\omega\epsilon\beta/\text{Big}$ )

**Problem.** We now need to normal-order perturbed Gaussians!

**Solution.** Borrow some tactics from QFT:

$$\odot(\epsilon P(c, u) e^{\gamma c + \beta u} | uc) = \odot(\epsilon P(\partial_\gamma, \partial_\beta) e^{\gamma c + \beta u} | uc) = \odot(\epsilon P(\partial_\gamma, \partial_\beta) e^{\gamma c + e^{-\gamma} \beta u} | cu),$$

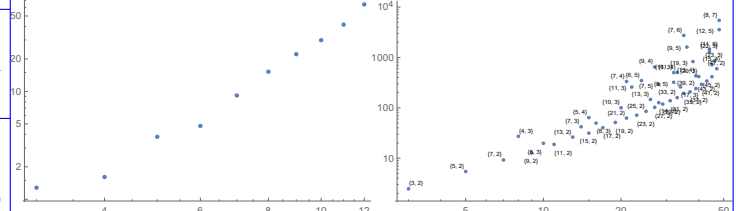
$$\odot(\epsilon P(u, w) e^{\alpha w + \beta u + \delta u w} | wu) = \odot(\epsilon P(\partial_\beta, \partial_\alpha) \gamma e^{\gamma(-b\alpha\beta + \alpha w + \beta u + \delta u w)} | ucw)$$

**Finally**, the values of the generators  $\nearrow, \searrow, \vec{n}$ , and  $\underline{u}$ , are set by solving many equations, non-uniquely.

**Pragmatic Simplifications.** Set  $t := e^b$ , work with  $v := (t-1)u/b$ , and set  $\mathbb{E}(\omega, L, Q, P) := \odot(\omega^{-1} e^{L+Q} \omega (1 + \epsilon \omega^{-4} P) : (i: v_i c_i w_i))$ . Now  $\omega \in R_S := \mathbb{Z}[t_i, t_i^{-1}]$  is Laurent,  $L = \sum l_{ij} \log(t_i) c_j$  with  $l_{ij} \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $Q = \sum q_{ij} v_i w_j$  with  $q_{ij} \in R_S$ , and  $P$  is a quartic polynomial in  $v_i, c_j, w_k$  with coefficients in  $R_S$ . The operations are lightly modified, and the  $\Lambda\acute{o}\gamma\omicron\varsigma$  and the values of the generators become somewhat simpler, as in the implementation below.

**Rough complexity estimate**, after  $t_k \rightarrow t$ .  $n$ : xing  $\frac{n}{A} \sum_{d=0}^4 \frac{w^{4-d} w^d n^2}{E F G} = n^3 w^4 \in [n^5, n^7]$  number;  $w$ : width, maybe  $\sim \sqrt{n}$ .  $A$ : go over stitchings in order.  $B$ : multiplication ops per  $N^{u_i w_j}$ .  $d$ : deg of  $u_i, w_j$  in  $P$ .  $E$ : #terms of deg  $d$  in  $P$ .  $F$ : ops per term.  $G$ : cost per polynomial multiplication op.

**Experimental Analysis ( $\omega\epsilon\beta/\text{Exp}$ ).** Log-log plots of computation time (sec) vs. crossing number, for all knots with up to 12 crossings (mean times) and for all torus knots with up to 48 crossings:



**Conjecture** (checked on the same collections). Given a knot  $K$  with Alexander polynomial  $A$ , there is a polynomial  $\rho_1$  such that

$$P = A^2 \frac{(t-1)^3 \rho_1 + t^2 (2vw + (1-t)(1-2c)) AA'}{(1-t)t}$$

Furthermore,  $A$  and  $\rho_1$  are symmetric under  $t \rightarrow t^{-1}$ , so let  $A^+$  and  $\rho_1^+$  be their “positive parts”, so e.g.,  $\rho_1(t) = \rho_1^+(t) + \rho_1^+(t^{-1}) - \rho_1^+(0)$ .

**Power.** On the 250 knots with at most 10 crossings, the pair  $(A, \rho_1)$  attains 250 distinct values, while (Khovanov, HOMFLY-PT) attains only 249 distinct values. To 11 crossings the numbers are (802, 788, 772) and to 12 they are (2978, 2883, 2786).

**Genus.** Up to 12 xings, always  $\deg \rho_1^+ \leq 2g - 1$ , where  $g$  is the 3-genus of  $K$  (equality for 2530 knots). This gives a lower bound on  $g$  in terms of  $\rho_1$  (conjectural, but undoubtedly true). This bound is often weaker than the Alexander bound, yet for 10 of the 12-xing Alexander failures it does give the right answer.



Demo Programs for 0-Co.

ωεβ/Demo

$$R_{\theta, i, j}^+ := \mathbb{E} [b_i c_j + b_i^{-1} (e^{b_i} - 1) u_i w_j];$$

$$R_{\theta, i, j}^- := \mathbb{E} [-b_i c_j + b_i^{-1} (e^{-b_i} - 1) u_i w_j];$$

The R-matrices

CF[ω<sub>-</sub>. E[Q<sub>-</sub>]] := Simplify[ω E[Simplify[Q]]];

Utilities

E /: E[Q1<sub>-</sub>] E[Q2<sub>-</sub>] := CF@E[Q1 + Q2];

ω1<sub>-</sub>. E[Q1<sub>-</sub>] ≡ ω2<sub>-</sub>. E[Q2<sub>-</sub>] := Simplify[ω1 == ω2 ∧ Q1 == Q2];

N<sub>(x:w|u)<sub>i</sub> c<sub>j</sub> → r<sub>-</sub>[ω<sub>-</sub>. E[Q<sub>-</sub>]] := CF[</sub>

Normal Ordering Operators

ω E[e<sup>α</sup> x<sub>R</sub> + γ c<sub>R</sub> + (Q / . c<sub>j</sub> | x<sub>i</sub> → θ)] / . {γ → ∂<sub>c<sub>j</sub></sub> Q, α → ∂<sub>x<sub>i</sub></sub> Q};

N<sub>w<sub>i</sub> u<sub>j</sub> → r<sub>-</sub>[ω<sub>-</sub>. E[Q<sub>-</sub>]] := CF[</sub>

v ω E[-b<sub>R</sub> v α β + v β u<sub>R</sub> + v α w<sub>R</sub> + v δ u<sub>R</sub> w<sub>R</sub> + (Q / . w<sub>i</sub> | u<sub>j</sub> → θ)] / .

v → (1 + b<sub>R</sub> δ)<sup>-1</sup> / .

{α → ∂<sub>w<sub>i</sub></sub> Q / . u<sub>j</sub> → θ, β → ∂<sub>u<sub>j</sub></sub> Q / . w<sub>i</sub> → θ, δ → ∂<sub>w<sub>i</sub>, u<sub>j</sub></sub> Q}];

Stitching

m<sub>i, j → r<sub>-</sub>[Z<sub>-</sub>] := Module[{X, Z},</sub>

CF[Z // N<sub>w<sub>i</sub> u<sub>j</sub> → x // N<sub>c<sub>i</sub> u<sub>x</sub> → x // N<sub>w<sub>x</sub> c<sub>j</sub> → x} / . Z<sub>-i|j|x</sub> → Z<sub>k</sub>]]</sub></sub></sub>

T<sub>0</sub> = R<sub>0,5,1</sub><sup>+</sup> R<sub>0,2,4</sub><sup>+</sup> R<sub>0,3,6</sub><sup>+</sup>

Some calculations for T<sub>0</sub>

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ b_5 c_1 + b_2 c_4 - b_3 c_6 + \frac{(-1+e^{b_5}) u_5 w_1}{b_5} + \frac{(-1+e^{b_2}) u_2 w_4}{b_2} + \frac{(-1+e^{-b_3}) u_3 w_6}{b_3} \right]$$

T<sub>0</sub> // m<sub>1,2→1</sub> // m<sub>3,4→3</sub> // m<sub>3,5→3</sub> // m<sub>3,6→3</sub>

$$\frac{1}{1 - (-1+e^{b_1}) (-1+e^{b_3})} \mathbb{E} \left[ b_3 c_1 + b_1 c_3 - b_3 c_3 + \frac{e^{b_3} (-1+e^{b_1}) (-1+e^{b_3}) u_1 w_1}{(-e^{b_1} - e^{b_3} + e^{b_1+b_3}) b_1} - \frac{e^{b_1} (-1+e^{b_3}) u_3 w_1}{(-1+(-1+e^{b_1}) (-1+e^{b_3})) b_3} - \frac{e^{-b_3} (-1+e^{b_1}) u_3 w_3}{b_3} - \frac{e^{-b_3} (-1+e^{b_1}) (-e^{b_3} b_3 u_1 + e^{b_1} (-1+e^{b_3}) b_1 u_3) w_3}{b_1 (b_3 - (-1+e^{b_1}) (-1+e^{b_3}) b_3)} \right]$$

Verifying meta-associativity

Q0 = E[Sum[f<sub>i</sub> c<sub>i</sub>, {i, 3}] + Sum[f<sub>i,j</sub> u<sub>i</sub> w<sub>j</sub>, {i, 3}, {j, 3}]]

E[C<sub>1</sub> f<sub>1</sub> + C<sub>2</sub> f<sub>2</sub> + C<sub>3</sub> f<sub>3</sub> + u<sub>1</sub> w<sub>1</sub> f<sub>1,1</sub> + u<sub>1</sub> w<sub>2</sub> f<sub>1,2</sub> + u<sub>1</sub> w<sub>3</sub> f<sub>1,3</sub> + u<sub>2</sub> w<sub>1</sub> f<sub>2,1</sub> + u<sub>2</sub> w<sub>2</sub> f<sub>2,2</sub> + u<sub>2</sub> w<sub>3</sub> f<sub>2,3</sub> + u<sub>3</sub> w<sub>1</sub> f<sub>3,1</sub> + u<sub>3</sub> w<sub>2</sub> f<sub>3,2</sub> + u<sub>3</sub> w<sub>3</sub> f<sub>3,3}]]</sub>

(Q0 // m<sub>1,2→1</sub> // m<sub>1,3→1</sub>) ≡ (Q0 // m<sub>2,3→2</sub> // m<sub>1,2→1</sub>)

True

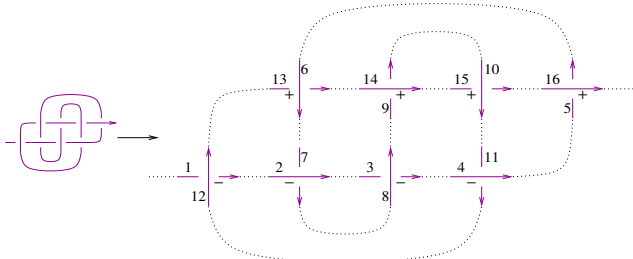
t1 = R<sub>0,1,2</sub><sup>+</sup> R<sub>0,3,4</sub><sup>+</sup> R<sub>0,5,6</sub><sup>+</sup> // m<sub>3,5→x</sub> // m<sub>1,6→y</sub> // m<sub>2,4→z</sub>

Testing R3

$$\mathbb{E} [b_x c_y + b_x c_z + b_y c_z + \frac{e^{b_x} (-1+e^{b_y}) u_y w_z}{b_y} + \frac{(-1+e^{b_x}) u_x (w_y + w_z)}{b_x}]$$

t1 ≡ (R<sub>0,1,2</sub><sup>+</sup> R<sub>0,3,4</sub><sup>+</sup> R<sub>0,5,6</sub><sup>+</sup> // m<sub>1,3→x</sub> // m<sub>2,5→y</sub> // m<sub>4,6→z</sub>)

True



z1 = R<sub>0,12,1</sub><sup>+</sup> R<sub>0,2,7</sub><sup>+</sup> R<sub>0,8,3</sub><sup>+</sup> R<sub>0,4,11</sub><sup>+</sup> R<sub>0,16,5</sub><sup>+</sup> R<sub>0,6,13</sub><sup>+</sup> R<sub>0,14,9</sub><sup>+</sup> R<sub>0,10,15</sub><sup>+</sup>

Do[z1 = (z1 // m<sub>1,n→1</sub>) / . b<sub>-</sub> → b, {n, 2, 16}];

{CF@z1, KnotData[{8, 17}, "AlexanderPolynomial"] [t]}

$$\left\{ -\frac{e^{3b} E[0]}{1-4e^{b,8} e^{2b,11} e^{3b,8} e^{4b,4} e^{5b,6} e^b}, 11 - \frac{1}{t^3} + \frac{4}{t^2} - \frac{8}{t} - 8t + 4t^2 - t^3 \right\}$$

Demo Programs for 1-Co.

ωεβ/Demo

$$\Delta[r_-] := ((t_r - 1) (2 (\alpha \beta + \delta \mu)^2 - \alpha^2 \beta^2) - 4 v_r c_r w_r \delta^2 \mu^2 - \delta (1 + \mu) (w_r^2 \alpha^2 + v_r^2 \beta^2) - v_r^2 w_r^2 \delta^3 (1 + 3 \mu) - 2 (\alpha \beta + 2 \delta \mu + v_r w_r \delta^2 (1 + 2 \mu) + 2 c_r \delta \mu^2) (w_r \alpha + v_r \beta) - 4 (c_r \mu^2 + v_r w_r \delta (1 + \mu)) (\alpha \beta + \delta \mu)) (1 + t_r) / 4;$$

The Λόγος

$$R_{i, j}^+ := \mathbb{E} [1, \text{Log}[t_i] c_j, v_i w_j, v_i c_i w_j + c_i c_j + v_i^2 w_j^2 / 4];$$

$$R_{i, j}^- := \mathbb{E} [1, -\text{Log}[t_i] c_j, -t_i^{-1} v_i w_j, t_i^{-1} v_i c_j w_j - c_i c_j - t_i^{-2} v_i^2 w_j^2 / 4];$$

$$(ur_{i-} := \mathbb{E} [t_i^{-1/2}, \theta, \theta, c_i t_i^2]; nr_{i-} := \mathbb{E} [t_i^{1/2}, \theta, \theta, -c_i t_i^2];)$$

The Generators

Differential Polynomials

DP<sub>x<sub>-</sub>→D<sub>α</sub>, y<sub>-</sub>→D<sub>β</sub></sub>[P<sub>-</sub>][f<sub>-</sub>] := (\* means P[∂<sub>α</sub>, ∂<sub>β</sub>][f] \*)

Total[CoefficientRules[P, {x, y}] / .

{(m<sub>-</sub>, n<sub>-</sub>) → c<sub>-</sub>} ⇒ c D[f, {α, m}, {β, n}]]

Utilities

CF[E<sub>-</sub>E] := Expand /@ Together /@ E;

E /: E[ω1<sub>-</sub>, L1<sub>-</sub>, Q1<sub>-</sub>, P1<sub>-</sub>] E[ω2<sub>-</sub>, L2<sub>-</sub>, Q2<sub>-</sub>, P2<sub>-</sub>] :=

CF@E[ω1 ω2, L1 + L2, ω2 Q1 + ω1 Q2, ω2<sup>4</sup> P1 + ω1<sup>4</sup> P2];

Normal Ordering Operators

N<sub>c<sub>j</sub> (x:v|w)<sub>i</sub> → r<sub>-</sub>[E[ω<sub>-</sub>, L<sub>-</sub>, Q<sub>-</sub>, P<sub>-</sub>]] := With[{q = e<sup>γ</sup> β x<sub>R</sub> + γ c<sub>R</sub>}, CF[</sub>

E[ω, γ c<sub>R</sub> + (L / . c<sub>j</sub> → θ), ω e<sup>γ</sup> β x<sub>R</sub> + (Q / . x<sub>i</sub> → θ),

e<sup>-q</sup> DP<sub>c<sub>j</sub>→D<sub>γ</sub>, x<sub>i</sub>→D<sub>β</sub></sub>[P][e<sup>q</sup>] / . {γ → ∂<sub>c<sub>j</sub></sub> L, β → ω<sup>-1</sup> ∂<sub>x<sub>i</sub></sub> Q}]]];

N<sub>w<sub>i</sub> v<sub>j</sub> → r<sub>-</sub>[E[ω<sub>-</sub>, L<sub>-</sub>, Q<sub>-</sub>, P<sub>-</sub>]] :=</sub>

With[{q = ((1 - t<sub>R</sub>) α β + β v<sub>R</sub> + α w<sub>R</sub> + δ v<sub>R</sub> w<sub>R}) / μ}, CF[</sub>

E[μ ω, L, μ ω q + μ (Q / . w<sub>i</sub> | v<sub>j</sub> → θ),

μ<sup>4</sup> e<sup>-q</sup> DP<sub>w<sub>i</sub>→D<sub>α</sub>, v<sub>j</sub>→D<sub>β</sub></sub>[P][e<sup>q</sup>] + ω<sup>4</sup> Δ[r<sub>-</sub>] / . μ → 1 + (t<sub>R</sub> - 1) δ / .

{α → ω<sup>-1</sup> (∂<sub>w<sub>i</sub></sub> Q / . v<sub>j</sub> → θ), β → ω<sup>-1</sup> (∂<sub>v<sub>j</sub></sub> Q / . w<sub>i</sub> → θ),

δ → ω<sup>-1</sup> ∂<sub>w<sub>i</sub>, v<sub>j</sub></sub> Q}]]];

Stitching

m<sub>i, j → r<sub>-</sub>[Z<sub>-</sub>E] := Module[{X, Z},</sub>

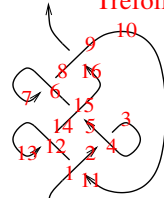
CF[(Z // N<sub>w<sub>i</sub> v<sub>j</sub> → x // N<sub>c<sub>i</sub> v<sub>x</sub> → x // N<sub>w<sub>x</sub> c<sub>j</sub> → x} / . Z<sub>-i|j|x</sub> → Z<sub>k</sub>)]</sub></sub></sub>

z2 = R<sub>1,11</sub><sup>+</sup> R<sub>4,2</sub><sup>+</sup> nr<sub>3</sub> R<sub>15,5</sub><sup>+</sup> R<sub>6,8</sub><sup>+</sup> ur<sub>7</sub> R<sub>3,16</sub><sup>+</sup> nr<sub>10</sub> R<sub>12,14</sub><sup>+</sup> ur<sub>13</sub>;

(Do[z2 = z2 // m<sub>1,k→1</sub>, {k, 2, 16}];

z2 = z2 / . a<sub>-1</sub> ⇒ a)

The 0-Framed Trefoil



$$\mathbb{E} \left[ -1 + \frac{1}{t} + t, \theta, \theta, 16 + \frac{2c}{t^4} - \frac{1}{t^3} - \frac{6c}{t^3} + \frac{4}{t^2} + \frac{10c}{t^2} - \frac{10}{t} - \frac{8c}{t} - 18t + 8ct + 14t^2 - 10ct^2 - 7t^3 + 6ct^3 + 2t^4 - 2ct^4 + 2vw - \frac{2vw}{t^4} + \frac{4vw}{t^3} - \frac{6vw}{t^2} + \frac{2vw}{t} - 6tvw + 4t^2vw - 2t^3vw \right]$$

Questions and To Do List. • Clean up and write up. • Implement well, compute for everything in sight. • Why are our quantities polynomials rather than just rational functions? • Bounds on their degrees? • Their integrality (Z) properties? • Can everything be re-stated using integrals (∫)? • Find the 2-variable version (for knots). How complex is it? • What about links / closed components? • Fully digest the “expansion” theorem; include cuaps. • Explore the (non-)dependence on R. • Is there a canonical R? • What does “group like” mean? • Strand removal? Strand doubling? Strand reversal? • Say something about knot genus. • Find the EK/AT/KV “vertex”. • Use as a playground to study associators/braidors. • Restate in topological language. • Study the associated (v-)braid representations. • Study mirror images and the b<sup>+</sup> ↔ b<sup>-</sup> involution. • Study ribbon knots. • Make precise the relationship with Γ-calculus and Alexander. • Relate to the coloured Jones polynomial. • Relate with “ordinary” q-algebra. • k-smidgen sl<sub>n</sub>, etc. • Are there “solvable” CYBE algebras not arising from semi-simple algebras? • Categorify and appease the Gods.

817

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diagram	$n_k^a$ Alexander’s $A_+$ Today’s / Rozansky’s $\rho_1^+$	genus / ribbon unknotting number / amphicheiral	diagram	$n_k^a$ Alexander’s $A_+$ Today’s / Rozansky’s $\rho_1^+$	genus / ribbon unknotting number / amphicheiral
	$0_1^a$ 1 0	0 / ✓ 0 / ✓		$3_1^a$ $t - 1$ $t$	1 / ✗ 1 / ✗
	$4_1^a$ $3 - t$ 0	1 / ✗ 1 / ✓		$5_1^a$ $t^2 - t + 1$ $2t^3 + 3t$	2 / ✗ 2 / ✗
	$5_2^a$ $2t - 3$ $5t - 4$	1 / ✗ 1 / ✗		$6_1^a$ $5 - 2t$ $t - 4$	1 / ✓ 1 / ✗
	$6_2^a$ $-t^2 + 3t - 3$ $t^3 - 4t^2 + 4t - 4$	2 / ✗ 1 / ✗		$6_3^a$ $t^2 - 3t + 5$ 0	2 / ✗ 1 / ✓
	$7_1^a$ $t^3 - t^2 + t - 1$ $3t^5 + 5t^3 + 6t$	3 / ✗ 3 / ✗		$7_2^a$ $3t - 5$ $14t - 16$	1 / ✗ 1 / ✗
	$7_3^a$ $2t^2 - 3t + 3$ $-9t^3 + 8t^2 - 16t + 12$	2 / ✗ 2 / ✗		$7_4^a$ $4t - 7$ $32 - 24t$	1 / ✗ 2 / ✗
	$7_5^a$ $2t^2 - 4t + 5$ $9t^3 - 16t^2 + 29t - 28$	2 / ✗ 2 / ✗		$7_6^a$ $-t^2 + 5t - 7$ $t^3 - 8t^2 + 19t - 20$	2 / ✗ 1 / ✗
	$7_7^a$ $t^2 - 5t + 9$ $8 - 3t$	2 / ✗ 1 / ✗		$8_1^a$ $7 - 3t$ $5t - 16$	1 / ✗ 1 / ✗
	$8_2^a$ $-t^3 + 3t^2 - 3t + 3$ $2t^5 - 8t^4 + 10t^3 - 12t^2 + 13t - 12$	3 / ✗ 2 / ✗		$8_3^a$ $9 - 4t$ 0	1 / ✗ 2 / ✓
	$8_4^a$ $-2t^2 + 5t - 5$ $3t^3 - 8t^2 + 6t - 4$	2 / ✗ 2 / ✗		$8_5^a$ $-t^3 + 3t^2 - 4t + 5$ $-2t^5 + 8t^4 - 13t^3 + 20t^2 - 22t + 24$	3 / ✗ 2 / ✗
	$8_6^a$ $-2t^2 + 6t - 7$ $5t^3 - 20t^2 + 28t - 32$	2 / ✗ 2 / ✗		$8_7^a$ $t^3 - 3t^2 + 5t - 5$ $-t^5 + 4t^4 - 10t^3 + 12t^2 - 13t + 12$	3 / ✗ 1 / ✗
	$8_8^a$ $2t^2 - 6t + 9$ $-t^3 + 4t^2 - 12t + 16$	2 / ✓ 2 / ✗		$8_9^a$ $-t^3 + 3t^2 - 5t + 7$ 0	3 / ✓ 1 / ✓
	$8_{10}^a$ $t^3 - 3t^2 + 6t - 7$ $-t^5 + 4t^4 - 11t^3 + 16t^2 - 21t + 20$	3 / ✗ 2 / ✗		$8_{11}^a$ $-2t^2 + 7t - 9$ $5t^3 - 24t^2 + 39t - 44$	2 / ✗ 1 / ✗
	$8_{12}^a$ $t^2 - 7t + 13$ 0	2 / ✗ 2 / ✓		$8_{13}^a$ $2t^2 - 7t + 11$ $-t^3 + 4t^2 - 14t + 20$	2 / ✗ 1 / ✗
	$8_{14}^a$ $-2t^2 + 8t - 11$ $5t^3 - 28t^2 + 57t - 68$	2 / ✗ 1 / ✗		$8_{15}^a$ $3t^2 - 8t + 11$ $21t^3 - 64t^2 + 120t - 140$	2 / ✗ 2 / ✗
	$8_{16}^a$ $t^3 - 4t^2 + 8t - 9$ $t^5 - 6t^4 + 17t^3 - 28t^2 + 35t - 36$	3 / ✗ 2 / ✗		$8_{17}^a$ $-t^3 + 4t^2 - 8t + 11$ 0	3 / ✗ 1 / ✓
	$8_{18}^a$ $-t^3 + 5t^2 - 10t + 13$ 0	3 / ✗ 2 / ✓		$8_{19}^a$ $t^3 - t^2 + 1$ $-3t^5 - 4t^2 - 3t$	3 / ✗ 3 / ✗
	$8_{20}^a$ $t^2 - 2t + 3$ $4t - 4$	2 / ✓ 1 / ✗		$8_{21}^a$ $-t^2 + 4t - 5$ $t^3 - 8t^2 + 16t - 20$	2 / ✗ 1 / ✗

This is <http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Talks/MIT-1612/>. Better videos at .../Indiana-1611/, .../LesDiablerets-1608/

# The Hardest Math I've Ever Really Used, 1

**Abstract.** What's the hardest math I've ever used in real life? Me, myself, directly - not by using a cellphone or a GPS device that somebody else designed? And in "real life" — not while studying or teaching mathematics? I use addition and subtraction daily, adding up bills or calculating change. I use percentages often, though mostly it is just "add 15 percents". I seldom use multiplication and division: when I buy in bulk, or when I need to know how many tiles I need to replace my kitchen floor. I've used powers twice in my life, doing calculations related to mortgages. I've used a tiny bit of geometry and algebra for a tiny bit of non-math-related computer graphics I've played with. And for a long time, that was all. In my talk I will tell you how recently a math topic discovered only in the 1800s made a brief and modest appearance in my non-mathematical life. There are many books devoted to that topic and a lot of active research. Yet for all I know, nobody ever needed the actual formulas for such a simple reason before. Hence we'll talk about the motion of movie cameras, and the fastest way to go from A to B subject to driving speed limits that depend on the locale, and the "happy segway principle" which is at the heart of the least action principle which in itself is at the heart of all of modern physics, and finally, about that funny discovery of Janos Bolyai's and Nikolai Ivanovich Lobachevsky's, that the famed axiom of parallels of the ancient Greeks need not actually be true.

**Non-Commutative Gaussian Elimination and Rubik's Cube**

**The Problem.** Let  $G = (g_1, \dots, g_n)$  be a subgroup of  $S_n$ , with  $n = O(100)$ . Before you die, understand  $G$ :

1. Compute  $|G|$ .
2. Given  $\sigma \in S_n$ , decide if  $\sigma \in G$ .
3. Write a  $\sigma \in G$  in terms of  $g_1, \dots, g_n$ .
4. Produce random elements of  $G$ .

**The Commutative Analog.** Let  $V = \text{span}\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$  be a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Before you die, understand  $V$ .

**Solution: Gaussian Elimination.** Prepare an empty table.

1	2	3	4	...	n-1	n
---	---	---	---	-----	-----	---

Space for a vector  $u_i \in V$ , of the form  $u_i = (0, 0, 0, 1, *, \dots, *)$ ; 1 := "the pivot"

Feed  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  in order. To feed a non-zero  $v$ , find its pivotal position  $i$ .

1. If box  $i$  is empty, put  $v$  there.
2. If box  $(i, j)$  is occupied, find a combination  $v'$  of  $v$  and  $u_i$  that eliminates the pivot, and feed  $v'$ .

**Non-Commutative Gaussian Elimination** Prepare a mostly-empty table.

1,1			
1,2	2,2		
1,3	2,3	3,3	
...			
...			
1,n	2,n	3,n	...
			n,j

Space for a  $\sigma_{i,j} \in S_n$ , of the form  $(1, 2, \dots, i-2, i-1, j, *, *, \dots, *)$   
 So  $\sigma_{i,j}$  fixes  $1, \dots, i-1$ , sends "the pivot"  $i$  to  $j$  and goes wild afterwards, and  $\sigma_{i,j}^{-1}$  "does sticker  $j$ ".


Feed  $g_1, \dots, g_n$  in order. To feed a non-identity  $\sigma$ , find its pivotal position  $i$  and let  $j := \sigma(i)$ .


1. If box  $(i, j)$  is empty, put  $\sigma$  there.
2. If box  $(i, j)$  contains  $\sigma_{i,j}$ , feed  $\sigma' := \sigma_{i,j}^{-1}\sigma$ .

**The Twist.** When done, for every occupied  $(i, j)$  and  $(k, l)$ , feed  $\sigma_{i,j}\sigma_{k,l}$ . Repeat until the table stops changing.

**Claim.** The process stops in our lifetimes, after at most  $O(n^6)$  operations. Call the resulting table  $T$ .

**Claim.** Anything fed in  $T$  is a monotone product in  $T$ :  $f$  was fed  $\Rightarrow f \in M_1 := \{\sigma_{1,j_1}\sigma_{2,j_2}\dots\sigma_{n,j_n} : \forall i, j_i \geq i \ \& \ \sigma_{i,j_i} \in T\}$

**Homework Problem 1.** Can you do cosets?  


**Homework Problem 2.** Can you do categories (groupoids)?  


**The Results**

```
In[3]:= {Feed[#]; Product[1 + Length[Select[Range[n], Head[#, 1, #] == # &]], {i, n}]} &/@ g;
Out[3]:= {4, 16, 159993501696000, 21119142223872000, 43252003274489856000, 43252003274489856000}
```

<http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Talks/Mathcamp-0907/> and links there

**The Generators**

In[1]:= gs = {  
 purple = P[18, 27, 36, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 3, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 45, 2, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 44, 1, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 43, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 10, 19, 28, 52, 49, 46, 53, 50, 47, 54, 51, 48],  
 white = P[1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 16, 25, 34, 10, 11, 9, 15, 24, 33, 39, 17, 18, 19, 20, 8, 14, 23, 38, 26, 27, 28, 29, 7, 13, 22, 31, 37, 35, 36, 12, 21, 30, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54],  
 green = P[1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 48, 47, 46, 39, 42, 45, 38, 41, 44, 37, 40, 43, 30, 29, 28, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54],  
 blue = P[5, 9, 2, 5, 8, 1, 4, 7, 54, 53, 52, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 18, 17, 16],  
 red = P[13, 2, 3, 22, 5, 6, 31, 8, 9, 12, 21, 30, 37, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 11, 20, 29, 40, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 10, 19, 28, 43, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 46, 38, 39, 49, 41, 42, 52, 44, 45, 1, 47, 48, 4, 50, 51, 7, 53, 54],  
 yellow = P[1, 2, 48, 4, 5, 7, 8, 54, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 3, 18, 27, 36, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 6, 17, 26, 35, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 9, 16, 25, 34, 37, 38, 15, 40, 41, 24, 43, 44, 33, 46, 47, 39, 49, 50, 42, 52, 53, 45],  
 };

**Theorem.**  $G = M_1$ .

$G = M_1 := \{\sigma_{1,j_1}\sigma_{2,j_2}\dots\sigma_{n,j_n} : \forall i, j_i \geq i \ \& \ \sigma_{i,j_i} \in T\}$ .

**Proof.** The inclusions  $M_1 \subset G$  and  $\{g_1, \dots, g_n\} \subset M_1$  are obvious. The rest follows from the following **Lemma**.  $M_1$  is closed under multiplication.

**Proof.** By backwards induction. Let  $M_k := \{\sigma_{k,j_k}\dots\sigma_{n,j_n} : \forall i, j_i \geq i \ \& \ \sigma_{i,j_i} \in T\}$ . Clearly  $M_n \subset M_{n-1}$ . Now assume that  $M_5 \subset M_4 \subset M_3$  and show that  $M_4 \subset M_3$ . Start with  $\sigma_{4,j_4} M_4 \subset M_3$ :

$$\sigma_{4,j_4}(\sigma_{4,j_4} M_3) \stackrel{1}{=} (\sigma_{4,j_4} \sigma_{4,j_4}) M_3 \stackrel{2}{=} M_3 M_3$$

$$\stackrel{3}{=} \sigma_{4,j_4}(M_3 M_3) \stackrel{4}{=} \sigma_{4,j_4} M_3 \subset M_4$$

(1: associativity, 2: thank the twist, 3: associativity and tracing  $i_4$ , 4: induction). Now the general case  $(\sigma_{4,j_4}\sigma_{5,j_5}\dots)(\sigma_{4,j_4}\sigma_{5,j_5}\dots)$  falls like a chain of dominos.

**Problem Solved!**

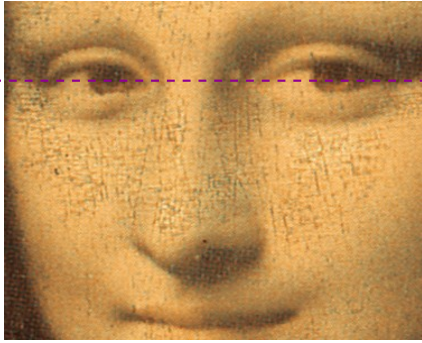
**A Demo Program**

```
1 In[2]:= {RecurLimit = 2*16;
2 n = 54;
3 P /: p.P ** P[a_] := p[{a]}];
4 Invp[P_] := P @@ Ordering[p];
5 Feed[P_][Range[1]] := Null;
6 Feed[P_] := Module[{f, j},
7   For[i = 1, p[{i]} == i, ++i];
8   j = p[{i}];
9   If[Head[f, i, j]] == P,
10    Feed[Invp[f, j]] ** p];
11 (* Else *) = f; j = p;
12 Do[If[Head[f, k, 1]] == P,
13   Feed[f, i, j] ** f[k, 1]];
14   Feed[f, k, 1] == f[i, j]]
15   j, {k, n}, {i, n}];
16 ]];
```

<http://drorbn.net/n16>

I could be a mathematician ...

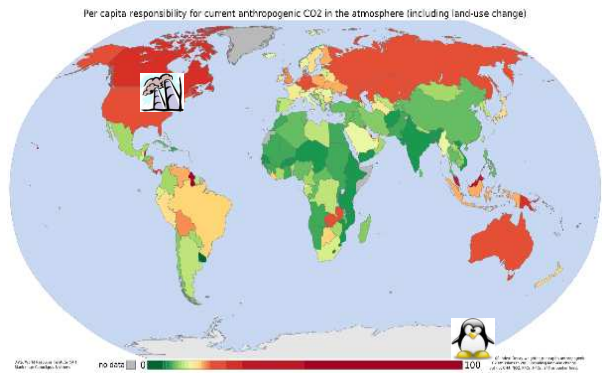
...or an art historian...



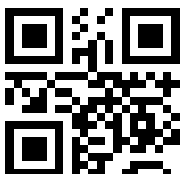
...or an environmentalist.



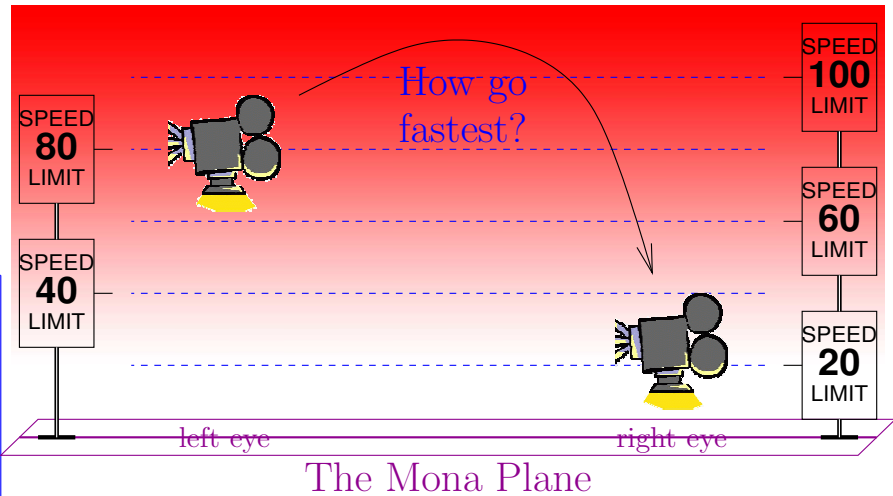
Al Gore in Futurama, circa 3000AD



**Goal.** Find the least-blur path to go from Mona's left eye to Mona's right eye in fixed time. Alternatively, fix your blur-tolerance, and find the fastest path to do the same. For fixed blur, our camera moves at a speed proportional to its distance from the image plane:



<http://drorbn.net/n16>



# The Hardest Math I've Ever Really Used, 2

Picture credits: Mona: Leonrado; Al Gore: Futurama; Map 1: en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greenhouse-gas; Smokestacks: gbuapcd.org/complaint.htm; Penguin: brentpabst.com/bp/2007/12/15/BrentGoesPenguin.aspx; Map 2: flightpedia.org; Segway: ce2calculator.wordpress.com/2008/10; Lobachevsky: en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nikolai.Lobachevsky; Eschers: www.josleys.com/show\_gallery.php?galid=325;

## Fermat's Principle

$c \sim 300,000$   
 $c \sim 250,000$

## The Brachistochrone

$$\begin{aligned} & 0 \\ & \sqrt{10} \\ & \sqrt{20} \\ & \sqrt{30} \\ & \sqrt{40} \\ & \sqrt{50} \end{aligned} \quad mgh = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$$

Bernoulli on Newton. "I recognize the lion by his paw".

## Flatlanders airline route map

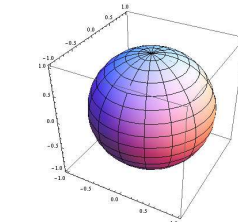


## The Least Action Principle.

Everywhere in physics, a system goes from  $A$  to  $B$  along the path of least action.

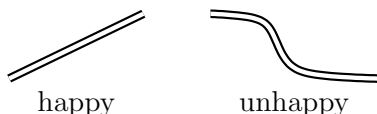
With small print for quantum mechanics.

```
ParametricPlot3D[
  Sin[u] Cos[v],
  Sin[u] Sin[v],
  Cos[u]
], {u, 0, Pi}, {v, 0, 2 Pi}
```

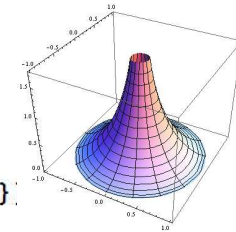


## The Happy Segway Principle

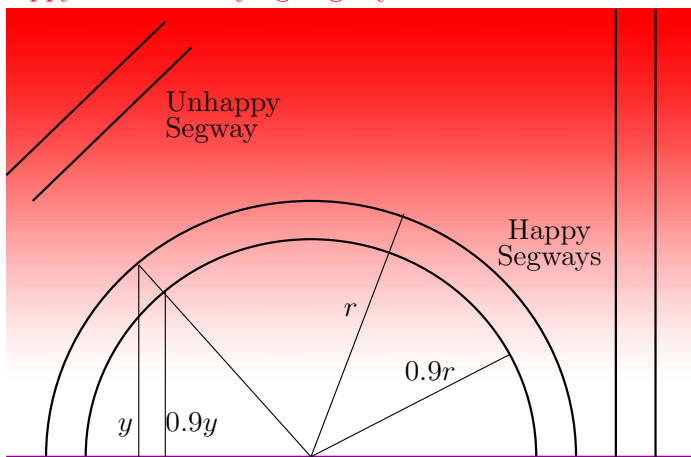
A Segway is happy iff both its wheels are



```
ParametricPlot3D[
  Sech[u] Cos[v],
  Sech[u] Sin[v],
  u - Tanh[u]
], {u, 0, e}, {v, 0, 2 Pi}
```

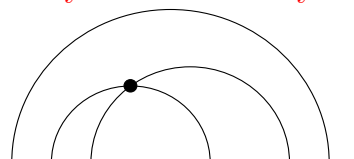


## Happy camera-carrying Segways above the Mona Plane



The Mona Plane

## The Bolyai-Lobachevsky Plane



Two parallels through one point

Further Fun Facts. • In small scale,  $\pi^H \rightarrow \pi^E$ . In large scale,  $\pi^H \rightarrow \infty$ .  
 • The sum of the angles of a triangle is always less than  $\pi$ . In fact,  $\text{sum} + \text{area} = \pi$ , so the largest possible area of a triangle is  $\pi$ .  
 • If your friend walks away, she'll drop out of sight before you know it. • There are so many places just a stone throw away! But you'd better remember your way back well!



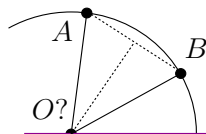
## The Actual Code

```
p3.y = p2.y + b*x3p;
x = p1.x-p2.x; y = p1.y-p2.y;
d1 = p1.d; d2 = p2.d;
norm = sqrt(x*x + y*y);
a = x/norm; b = y/norm;
x1p = a*x + b*y;
x0 = (x1p + (d1*d1-d2*d2)/x1p)/2;
r = sqrt((x1p-x0)*(x1p-x0)+d1*d1);
x1pp = (x1p-x0)/r; x2pp = -x0/r;
theta1 = acos(x1pp);
theta2 = acos(x2pp);
t1 = log(tan(theta1/2));
t2 = log(tan(theta2/2));
t3 = t1 + s*(t2-t1);
theta3 = 2*atan(exp(t3));
x3pp = cos(theta3);
d3pp = sin(theta3);
x3p = x0 + r*x3pp;
p3.d = r*d3pp;
p3.x = p2.x + a*x3p;
```

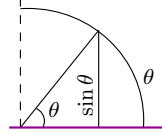
Ops used. +, -, ×, ÷, √, cos, sin, tan, arccos, arctan, log, exp.

Some further basic geometry also occurs:

### Finding the Centre



### Parametrization



$$\theta'(t) = \sin \theta(t)$$

$$\Downarrow$$

$$\theta = 2 \arctan e^t$$

Work in Progress!

# The Brute and the Hidden Paradise

**Abstract.** There is expected to be a hidden paradise of poly-time computable knot polynomials lying just beyond the Alexander polynomial. I will describe my brute attempts to gain entry.

**Why "expected"?** Gauss diagram  $v_{d,f}(K) = \sum_{Y \subset X(K), |Y|=d} f(Y)$  formulas [PV, GPV] show that finite-type invariants are all poly-time, and tempt to conjecture that there are no others. But Alexander shows it nonsense:

$d$	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	...
known invts* in $O(n^d)$	1	1	$\infty$	3	4	8	11	...

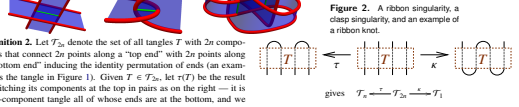
This is an unreasonable picture! *\*Fresh, numerical, no cheating.*  
So there ought to be further poly-time invariants.

**Also.** • The line above the Alexander line in the Melvin-Morton [MM, Ro] expansion of the coloured Jones polynomial. • The 2-loop contribution to the Kontsevich integral.

**Why "paradise"?** Foremost answer: **OBVIOUSLY.** Cf. proving (incomputable A)=(incomputable B), or categorifying (incomputable C).

**Second Answer.** The second answer has to do with "Algebraic Knot Theory", so let me start with that. Somewhat informally, a "tangle" is a piece of a knot, or a "knot with endpoints" (an example is on the right). Knots can be assembled by stitching together the strands of several tangles, or the different strands of a single tangle. Some interesting classes of knots can be defined algebraically using tangles and these stitching operations. Here is the most interesting example:

**Definition 1.** A "ribbon knot" is a knot  $K$  that can be presented as the boundary of a disk  $D$  which is allowed to have "ribbon singularities" but not "clasp singularities". See Figure 2.



**Definition 2.** Let  $\mathcal{T}_{2n}$  denote the set of all tangles  $T$  with  $2n$  components that connect  $2n$  points along a "top end" with  $2n$  points along a "bottom end" inducing the identity permutation of ends (an example is the tangle in Figure 1). Given  $T \in \mathcal{T}_{2n}$ , let  $\tau(T)$  be the result of stitching its components at the top in pairs as on the right — it is an  $n$ -component tangle all of whose ends are at the bottom, and we (somewhat loosely) denote the set of all such by  $\mathcal{T}_n$ . Likewise let  $\sigma(T)$  be the result of stitching  $T$  both at the top and at the bottom, also as on the right. So  $\sigma(T)$  is a 1-component tangle, which is the same as a knot, and  $\sigma: \mathcal{T}_{2n} \rightarrow \mathcal{T}_1$ .

**Theorem 1** (I have not seen this theorem in the literature, yet it is not difficult to prove). The set of ribbon knots is the set of all knots  $K$  that can be written as  $K = \sigma(T)$  for some tangle  $T$  for which  $\tau(T)$  is the unknotted (crossingless) tangle  $U$ :  
(ribbon knots) =  $\{\sigma(T); T \in \mathcal{T}_{2n} \text{ and } \tau(T) = U \in \mathcal{T}_n\}$ .

Now suppose we have an invariant  $Z: \mathcal{T}_1 \rightarrow A_1$  of tangles, which takes values in some spaces  $A_k$ . Suppose also we have operations  $\tau_1: A_{2n} \rightarrow A_n$  and  $\sigma_1: A_{2n} \rightarrow A_1$  such that the diagram on the right is commutative. Then

$Z(\text{ribbon knots}) \subseteq \mathcal{R}_k := \{k_1(A); \ell \in A_{2n} \text{ and } \tau_1(\ell) = 1_1 \in A_n \subseteq \mathcal{A}_1\}$ .  
where  $1_1 = Z(U) \in A_1$ . If the target spaces  $A_k$  are algebraic (polynomials, matrices, matrices of polynomials, etc.) and the operations  $\tau_1$  and  $\sigma_1$  are algebraic maps between them (in this stage, meaning just "have simple algebraic formulas"), then  $\mathcal{R}_k$  is an algebraically defined set. Hence we potentially have an algebraic way to detect non-ribbon knots: if  $Z(K) \notin \mathcal{R}_k$ , then  $K$  is not ribbon.

As it turns out, it is valuable to detect non-ribbon knots. Indeed the Slice-Ribbon Conjecture (Fox, 1960s) asserts that every slice knot (a knot in  $S^3$  that can be presented as the boundary of a disk embedded in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ) is ribbon. Gompf, Scharlemann, and Thompson (GST) describe a family of slice knots which they conjecture are not ribbon (the simplest of those is on the right). With the algebraic technology described above it may be possible to show that the [GST] knots are indeed non-ribbon, thus disproving the Slice-Ribbon Conjecture.

- C1. An invariant  $Z$  which makes sense on tangles and for which diagram (1) commutes.
  - C2.  $Z$  cannot be a simple extension of the Alexander polynomial to tangles, for by Fox-Milnor [FM] the Alexander polynomial does not detect non-ribbon slice knots.
  - C3.  $Z$  cannot be computable from finitely many finite type invariants, for this would contradict the results of Ng [Ng].
  - C4.  $Z$  must be computable on at least the simplest [GST] knot, which has 48 crossings.
  - C5. It is better if in some meaningful sense the size of the spaces  $A_k$  grows slowly in  $k$ . Indeed if  $A_{2n}$  is much bigger than  $A_n$  and  $A_1$ , then at least generically  $\mathcal{R}_k$  will be the full set  $A_1$  and our condition will be empty.
- What would it take?  
No invariant that I know now meets these criteria. Alexander and Vassiliev fail C2 and C3, respectively. Almost all quantum invariants and knot homologies pass C1-C3, but fail C4. Jones, HOMFLY-PT and Khovanov potentially pass C4, yet fail C5. We must come up with something new.
- [FM] R. H. Fox and J. W. Milnor, *Singularities of 2-Spheres in 4-Space and Cohomology of Knots*, Osaka J. Math. 3 (1966) 257–267.  
[GST] R. E. Gompf, M. Scharlemann, and A. Thompson, *Fibered Knots and Potential Counterexamples to the Property 2R and Slice-Ribbon Conjectures*, Geom. and Top. 14 (2010) 2305–2347, arXiv:1103.1601.  
[Ng] K. Y. Ng, *Groups of Ribbon Knots*, Topology 37 (1998) 441–458, arXiv:alg-geom/9502017 (with an addendum at arXiv:math.GT/0310074).

**Why "brute"?** Cause it's the only thing I know, for now. There may be better ways in, and it's fair to hope that sooner or later they will be found.

**The Gold Standard** is set by the formulas [BNS, BN] for Alexander. An  $S$ -component tangle  $T$  has  $\Gamma(T) \in R_S \times M_{S \times S}(R_S) = \left\{ \begin{matrix} \omega & S \\ S & A \end{matrix} \right\}$  with  $R_S = \mathbb{Z}\langle\{t_a : a \in S\}\rangle$ :

$$\begin{matrix} 1 & a & b \\ a^* & 1 & 1 - t_a^{\pm 1} \\ b^* & 0 & t_a^{\pm 1} \end{matrix} \rightarrow T_1 \sqcup T_2 \rightarrow \begin{matrix} \omega_1 \omega_2 & S_1 & S_2 \\ S_1 & A_1 & 0 \\ S_2 & 0 & A_2 \end{matrix}$$

$$\begin{matrix} \omega & a & b & S \\ a & \alpha & \beta & \theta \\ b & \gamma & \delta & \epsilon \\ S & \phi & \psi & \Xi \end{matrix} \rightarrow \begin{matrix} (1-\beta)\omega & c & S \\ c & \gamma + \frac{\alpha\delta}{1-\beta} & \epsilon + \frac{\delta\theta}{1-\beta} \\ S & \phi + \frac{\alpha\psi}{1-\beta} & \Xi + \frac{\psi\theta}{1-\beta} \end{matrix}$$

$t_a, t_b \rightarrow t_c$

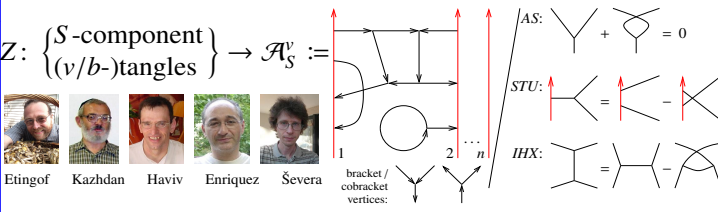
**Help Needed!** Disorganized videos of talks in a private seminar are at ωεβ/PP. Vo, Halacheva, Dalvit, Ens, Lee (van der Ven, Schaveling)

For long knots,  $\omega$  is Alexander, and that's the fastest Alexander algorithm I know!

Dunfield: 1000-crossing fast.

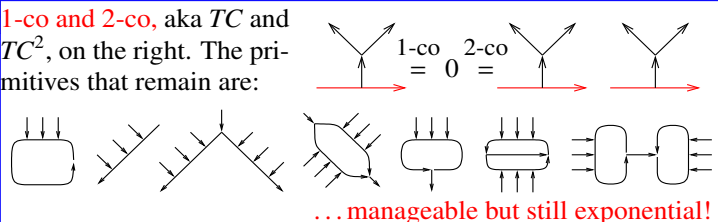


**Theorem [EK, Ha, En, Se].** There is a "homomorphic expansion"

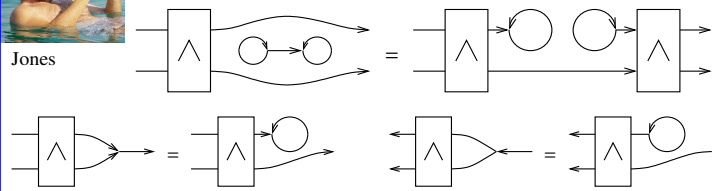


(it is enough to know  $Z$  on  $\mathcal{A}_S^v$  and have disjoint union and stitching formulas) **... exponential and too hard!**

**Idea.** Look for "ideal" quotients of  $\mathcal{A}_S^v$  that have poly-sized descriptions; ... specifically, limit the co-brackets.



**The 2D relations** come from the relation with 2D Lie bialgebras:



We let  $\mathcal{A}^{2,2}$  be  $\mathcal{A}^v$  modulo 2-co and 2D, and  $z^{2,2}$  be the projection of  $\log Z$  to  $\mathcal{P}^{2,2} := \pi\mathcal{P}^v$ , where  $\mathcal{P}^v$  are the primitives of  $\mathcal{A}^v$ .

**Main Claim.**  $z^{2,2}$  is poly-time computable.

**Main Point.**  $\mathcal{P}^{2,2}$  is poly-size, so how hard can it be? Indeed, as a module over  $\mathbb{Q}\langle\{b_i\}\rangle$ ,  $\mathcal{P}^{2,2}$  is at most

$$\left\langle \begin{matrix} i \\ 1 \\ j \end{matrix}, \delta, \begin{matrix} i \\ \downarrow \\ j \end{matrix}, \delta, \begin{matrix} i & i \\ \downarrow & \downarrow \\ j & j \end{matrix}, \delta, \begin{matrix} i & i & k \\ \downarrow & \downarrow & \downarrow \\ j & j & j \end{matrix} \right\rangle$$

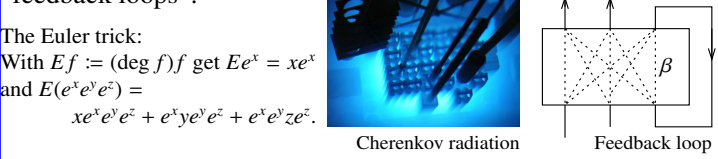
$b_i = \begin{matrix} \circ \\ \downarrow \end{matrix}$ ,  $\delta = \begin{matrix} \circ \\ \rightarrow \end{matrix}$

**Claim.**  $R_{jk} = e^{a_{jk}} e^{\rho_{jk}}$  is a solution of the Yang-Baxter / R3 equation  $R_{12}R_{13}R_{23} = R_{23}R_{13}R_{12}$  in  $\exp \mathcal{P}^{2,2}$ , with  $\rho_{jk} :=$

$$\psi(b_j) \left( -c_k + \frac{c_k a_{jk}}{b_j} - \frac{\delta a_{jk} a_{jk}}{b_j^2} \right) + \frac{\phi(b_j) \psi(b_k)}{b_k \phi(b_k)} \left( c_k a_{kk} - \frac{\delta a_{jk} a_{kk}}{b_j} \right),$$

and with  $\phi(x) := e^{-x} - 1 = -x + x^2/2 - \dots$ , and  $\psi(x) := ((x+2)e^{-x} - 2 + x)/(2x) = x^2/12 - x^3/24 + \dots$  (This already gives some new (v-)braid group representations, as below).

**Problem.** How do we multiply in  $\exp(\mathcal{P}^{2,2})$ ? How do we stitch? BCH is a theoretical dream. Instead, use "scatter and glow" and "feedback loops":



Work in Progress!

# The Brute and the Hidden Paradise

**Local Algebra** (with van der Veen) Much can be reformulated as (non-standard) “quantum algebra” for the 4D Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g} = \langle b, c, u, w \rangle$  over  $\mathbb{Q}[\epsilon]/(\epsilon^2 = 0)$ , with  $b$  central and  $[w, c] = w$ ,  $[c, u] = u$ , and  $[u, w] = b - 2\epsilon c$ . The key:  $a_{ij} = (b_i - \epsilon c_i)c_j + u_i w_j$  in  $\mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g})^{\otimes(i,j)}$ .



van der Veen

**Some (new) representations of the (v-)braid groups.**

oeβ/Reps

$B_{i,j}[\xi] := \xi / . v_j \mapsto (1-t) v_i + t v_j$

Burau (old)

Column@{lhs = {v1, v2, v3} // B1,2 // B1,3 // B2,3, rhs = {v1, v2, v3} // B2,3 // B1,3 // B1,2, lhs - rhs // Expand}

... testing R3

{v1, (1-t) v1 + t v2, (1-t) v1 + t ((1-t) v2 + t v3)}  
{v1, (1-t) v1 + t v2,  
(1-t) ((1-t) v1 + t v2) + t ((1-t) v1 + t v3)}  
{0, 0, 0}

$G_{i,j}[\xi] := \xi / . v_j \mapsto (1-t_i) v_i + t_i v_j$

Gassner (old)

... Overcrossings Commute (OC):

Column@{lhs = {v1, v2, v3} // G1,2 // G1,3, Expand[lhs - ({v1, v2, v3} // G1,3 // G1,2)]}

... Undercrossings Commute (UC):

Column@{lhs = {v1, v2, v3} // G1,3 // G2,3, rhs = {v1, v2, v3} // G2,3 // G1,3, lhs - rhs // Expand}

{v1, v2, (1-t1) v1 + t1 ((1-t2) v2 + t2 v3)}  
{v1, v2, (1-t2) v2 + t2 ((1-t1) v1 + t1 v3)}  
{0, 0, v1 - t1 v1 - t2 v1 + t1 t2 v1 - v2 + t1 v2 + t2 v2 - t1 t2 v2}

Gassner Plus (new?)

$GP_{i,j}[\xi] := \text{Expand}[\xi / . \{u_j \mapsto (1-t_i) u_i + t_i u_j, f \cdot v_j \mapsto f(1-t_i) v_i + f t_i v_j + (t_i - 1)(t_i \partial_{t_i} f - t_j \partial_{t_j} f) u_i + f t_i u_i\}]$ ;

bas = {f[t1, t2, t3] v1, f[t1, t2, t3] v2, f[t1, t2, t3] v3, u1, u2, u3};

Short[lhs = bas // GP1,2 // GP1,3 // GP2,3, 2]

... R3 (left)

{f[t1, t2, t3] v1, f[t1, t2, t3] t1 u1 + f[t1, t2, t3] v1 - f[t1, t2, t3] t1 v1 + <<6>> + t1^2 u1 f^{(1,0,0)}[t1, t2, t3], <<1>> + <<19>> + <<1>>, <<1>>, u1 - t1 u1 + t1 u2, u1 - t1 u1 + t1 u2 - t1 t2 u2 + t1 t2 u3}

(bas // GP2,3 // GP1,3 // GP1,2) - lhs

... R3 (rest)

{0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0}

(bas // GP1,2 // GP1,3) - (bas // GP1,3 // GP1,2)

... OC

{0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0}

**Question.** Does Gassner Plus factor through Gassner?

$K\delta_{i,j} := \text{KroneckerDelta}[i, j]$ ;

Turbo-Gassner (new!)

$TG_{i,j}[\xi] := \text{Expand}[\xi / . \{f \cdot v_k \mapsto \text{Plus}[f v_k / . v_j \mapsto (1-t_i) v_i + t_i v_j, (1-t_i^{-1})(t_i \partial_{t_i} f - t_j \partial_{t_j} f) * (u_k / . u_j \mapsto (1-t_i) u_i + t_i u_j) * u_i w_j, K\delta_{k,i} f (u_j - u_i) u_i w_j, u_j \mapsto (1-t_i) u_i + t_i u_j, w_i \mapsto w_i + (1-t_i^{-1}) w_j, w_j \mapsto t_i^{-1} w_j\}]$ ;

bas = {f[t1, t2, t3] v1, f[t1, t2, t3] v2, f[t1, t2, t3] v3, u1, u2, u3, w1, w2, w3};

Satisfies R3...

(bas // TG1,2 // TG1,3) - (bas // TG1,3 // TG1,2) ... OC

{0, -f[t1, t2, t3] u1 u2 w3 + f[t1, t2, t3] t1 u1 u2 w3 + f[t1, t2, t3] u1 u3 w3 - f[t1, t2, t3] t1 u1 u3 w3, -f[t1, t2, t3] u1 u2 w2 + f[t1, t2, t3] t1 u1 u2 w2 + f[t1, t2, t3] u1 u3 w2 - f[t1, t2, t3] t1 u1 u3 w2, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0}

$\eta / : \eta[i_]^2 = 0; \eta / : \eta[i_] \eta[j_] = 0;$

Turbo-Burau (new!)

$TB_{i,j}[\xi] :=$

Expand[ $\xi / . \{f \cdot v_k \mapsto \text{Plus}[f v_k / . v_j \mapsto (1-t-\eta[i]) v_i + (t+\eta[i]) v_j, (t-1)(\text{Coefficient}[f, \eta[i]] - \text{Coefficient}[f, \eta[j]]) * (u_k / . u_j \mapsto (1-t) u_i + t u_j) * u_i w_j, K\delta_{k,i} (f / . \_ \eta \rightarrow 0) (u_j - u_i) u_i w_j, u_j \mapsto (1-t) u_i + t u_j, w_i \mapsto w_i + (1-t^{-1}) w_j, w_j \mapsto t^{-1} w_j\}]$ ;

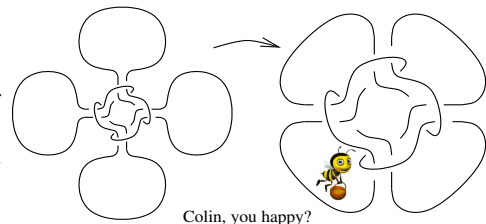
ff = f0 + f1 η[1] + f2 η[2] + f3 η[3];

bas = {ff v1, ff v2, ff v3, u1^2 w1, u2^2 w2, u1, u2, u3, w1, w2, w3};

(bas // TB1,2 // TB1,3) - (bas // TB1,3 // TB1,2) ... OC

{0, -f0 u1 u2 w3 + t f0 u1 u2 w3 + f0 u1 u3 w3 - t f0 u1 u3 w3, -f0 u1 u2 w2 + t f0 u1 u2 w2 + f0 u1 u3 w2 - t f0 u1 u3 w2, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0}

**Flower Surgery Theorem.** A knot is ribbon iff it is the result of  $n$ -petal flower surgery (from thin petals to wide petals) on an  $n$ -component unlink, for some  $n$ .



Colin, you happy?

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“God created the knots, all else in topology is the work of mortals.”

Leopold Kronecker (modified)

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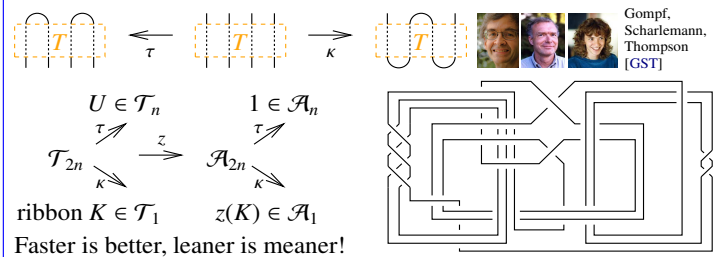
Work in Progress!

## Gauss-Gassner Invariants, What?

**Abstract.** In a “degree  $d$  Gauss diagram formula” one produces a number by summing over all possibilities of paying very close attention to  $d$  crossings in some  $n$ -crossing knot diagram while observing the rest of the diagram only very loosely, minding only its skeleton. The result is always poly-time computable as only  $\binom{n}{d}$  states need to be considered. An under-explained paper by Goussarov, Polyak, and Viro [GPV] shows that every type  $d$  knot invariant has a formula of this kind. Yet only finitely many integer invariants can be computed in this manner within any specific polynomial time bound.

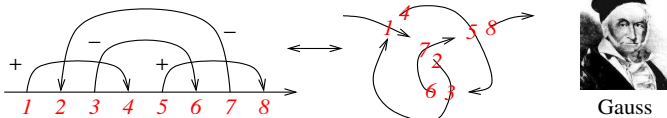
I suggest to do the same as [GPV], except replacing “the skeleton” with “the Gassner invariant”, which is still poly-time. One poly-time invariant that arises in this way is the Alexander polynomial (in itself it is infinitely many numerical invariants) and I believe (and have evidence to support my belief) that there are more.

**The QUILT Target.** QUick Invariants of Large Tangles, for little had been found since Alexander (and if they're there, how can we not know all about them?), and for {ribbon}  $\neq$  {slice}:

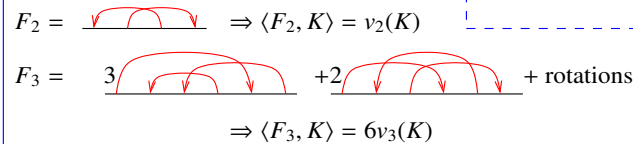
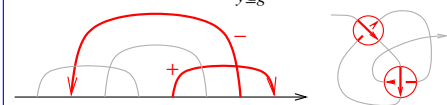


### Gauss Diagrams.

(just QUILK, today)



**Gauss Diagram Formulas** [PV, GPV]. If  $g$  is a Gauss diagram and  $F$  an unsigned Gauss diagram,  $\langle F, g \rangle_{PV} := \sum_{y \subseteq g} (-1)^{|y|} \delta(F, \bar{y})$ :



**Under-Explained Theorem** [GPV]. Every finite type invariant arises in this way.

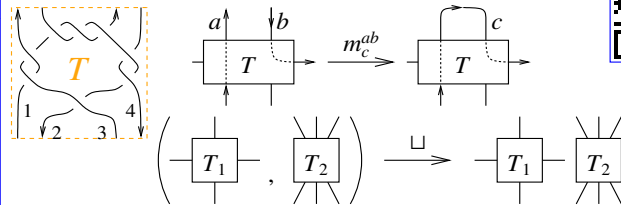
### Gauss-Gassner Invariants.

Want more? Increase your environmental awareness! Instead of nearly-forgetting  $y^c$ , compute its Burau/Gassner invariant (note that  $y^c$  is a tangle in a Swiss cheese; more easily, a virtual tangle):

$$GG_{k,F}(g) = \sum_{y \subseteq g, |y| \leq k} \bar{F}(y, z(y^c)) = \sum_{y \subseteq g, |y| \leq k} F(y, z(g \text{ cut near } y)),$$

where  $k$  is fixed and  $F(y, \gamma)$  is a function of a list of arrows  $y$  and a square matrix  $\gamma$  of side  $|y| + 1 \leq k + 1$ .

### The (Burau-)Gassner Invariant.



**Theorem 1.**  $\exists!$  an invariant  $z: \{\text{pure framed } S\text{-component tangles}\} \rightarrow \Gamma(S) := M_{S \times S}(R_S)$ , where  $R_S = \mathbb{Z}\langle (T_a)_{a \in S} \rangle$  is the ring of rational functions in  $S$  variables, intertwining

$$\left( \begin{array}{c|c} S_1 & S_2 \\ \hline S_1 & A_1 \end{array}, \begin{array}{c|c} S_2 & A_2 \\ \hline S_2 & A_2 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{\sqcup} \begin{array}{c|c} S_1 & S_2 \\ \hline S_1 & A_1 \quad 0 \\ S_2 & 0 \quad A_2 \end{array},$$

$$\begin{array}{c|c} a & b & S \\ \hline a & \alpha & \beta & \theta \\ b & \gamma & \delta & \epsilon \\ S & \phi & \psi & \Xi \end{array} \xrightarrow{m_c^{ab}} \begin{array}{c|c} c & S \\ \hline c & \gamma + \alpha\delta/\mu & \epsilon + \delta\theta/\mu \\ S & \phi + \alpha\psi/\mu & \Xi + \psi\theta/\mu \end{array},$$

$T_a, T_b \rightarrow T_c$   
 $\mu := 1 - \beta$

and satisfying  $(|a; a \nearrow b, b \nearrow a) \xrightarrow{z} \left( \begin{array}{c|c} a & b \\ \hline a & 1 \quad 1 - T_a^{-1} \\ b & 0 \quad T_a^{-1} \end{array} \right)$ .

See also [LD, KLV, CT, BNS].

**Theorem 2.** With  $k = 1$  and  $F_A$  defined by

$$F_A(\xrightarrow{s}, \gamma) = s \frac{\gamma_{22}\gamma_{33} - \gamma_{23}\gamma_{32}}{\gamma_{33} + \gamma_{13}\gamma_{32} - \gamma_{12}\gamma_{33}} \Big|_{T_a \rightarrow T},$$

$$F_A(\xleftarrow{s}, \gamma) = s \frac{\gamma_{13}\gamma_{32} - \gamma_{12}\gamma_{33}}{\gamma_{32} - \gamma_{23}\gamma_{32} + \gamma_{22}\gamma_{33}} \Big|_{T_a \rightarrow T},$$

$GG_{1,F_A}(K)$  is a regular isotopy invariant. Unfortunately, for every knot  $K$ ,  $GG_{1,F_A}(K) - T \frac{d}{dT} \log A(K)(T) \in \mathbb{Z}$ , where  $A(K)$  is the Alexander polynomial of  $K$ .

**Expectation.** Higher Gauss-Gassner invariants exist ... (though right now I can reach for them only wearing my exoskeleton)

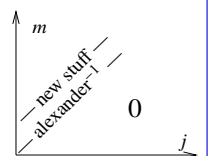


... and they are the “higher diagonals” in the MMR expansion of the coloured Jones polynomial  $J_\lambda$ .

**Theorem** ([BNG], conjectured [MM], elucidated [Ro]). Let  $J_d(K)$  be the coloured Jones polynomial of  $K$ , in the  $d$ -dimensional representation of  $sl(2)$ . Writing

$$\frac{(q^{1/2} - q^{-1/2})J_d(K)}{q^{d/2} - q^{-d/2}} \Big|_{q=e^h} = \sum_{j,m \geq 0} a_{jm}(K) d^j \hbar^m,$$

“below diagonal” coefficients vanish,  $a_{jm}(K) = 0$  if  $j > m$ , and “on diagonal” coefficients give the inverse of the Alexander polynomial:  $(\sum_{m=0}^{\infty} a_{mm}(K) \hbar^m) \cdot A(K)(e^h) = 1$ .

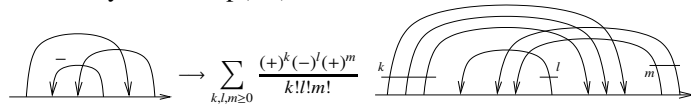


# Help Needed!

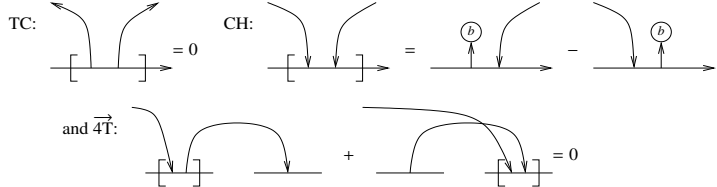
I'm slow and feeble-minded.

**Warning.** Conventions on this page change randomly from line to line.

$Z^{w/2}$ . The GGA story is about  $Z^{w/2}: \mathcal{K} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}^{w/2}$ , defined on arrows  $a$  by  $\pm a \mapsto \exp(\pm a)$ :



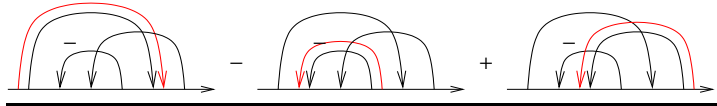
Where the target space  $\mathcal{A}^{w/2}$  is the space of unsigned arrow diagrams modulo



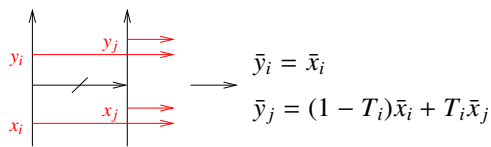
( $Z^{w/2}$  is a reduction of the much-studied  $Z^w$  [BND, BN]).

**The Euler Trick.** How best do non-commutative algebra with exponentials? Logarithms are from hell as  $e^f e^g = e^{\text{bch}(f,g)}$ , but Euler's from heaven: Let  $E$  be the derivation  $Ef := (\deg f)f (= xf')$ , in  $\mathbb{Q}[[x]]$  and let  $\tilde{E}Z := Z^{-1}EZ (= x(\log Z)'$  in same). If  $\deg x = 1$  then  $\tilde{E}e^x = x$  and if  $F = e^f$  and  $G = e^g$ , then  $\tilde{E}(FG)$  is  $(FG)^{-1}((EF)G + F(EG)) = G^{-1}(\tilde{E}F)G + \tilde{E}G = e^{-\text{ad } g}(\tilde{E}F) + \tilde{E}G$ .

**Scatter and Glow.** Apply  $\tilde{E}$  to  $Z(K)$ .  $EZ$  is shown:

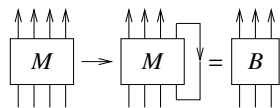


**Tail scattering.** The algebra  $\mathbb{Q}[[b_i]]\langle a_{ij} \rangle$  modulo  $[a_{ij}, a_{kl}] = 0$  (loc),  $[a_{ij}, a_{ik}] = 0$  (TC), and  $[a_{ik}, a_{jk}] = -[a_{ij}, a_{jk}] = b_j a_{ik} - b_i a_{jk}$  (CH and 4T), acts on  $V = \mathbb{Q}[[b_i]]\langle x_i = a_{i\infty} \rangle$  by  $[a_{ij}, x_i] = 0$ ,  $[a_{ij}, x_j] = b_i x_j - b_j x_i$ . Hence  $e^{\text{ad } a_{ij}} x_i = x_i$ ,  $e^{\text{ad } a_{ij}} x_j = e^{b_i} x_j + \frac{b_j}{b_i}(1 - e^{b_i})x_i$ . Renaming  $\bar{x}_i = x_i/b_i$ ,  $T_i = e^{b_i}$ , get  $[e^{\text{ad } a_{ij}}]_{\bar{x}_i, \bar{x}_j} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 - T_i \\ 0 & T_i \end{pmatrix}$ . Alternatively,



**Linear Control Theory.**

If  $\begin{pmatrix} y \\ y_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \Xi & \phi \\ \theta & \alpha \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ x_n \end{pmatrix}$ , and we further impose  $x_n = y_n$ , then  $y = Bx$  where  $B = \Xi + \frac{\phi\theta}{1 - \alpha}$ . This fully explains the Gassner formulas and the GGA formula!



All that remains now is to replace TC by something more interesting: with  $\epsilon^2 = 0$ ,

$$[a_{ij}, a_{ik}] = \epsilon(c_j a_{ik} - c_k a_{ij}).$$

Many further changes are also necessary, and the algebra is a lot more complicated and revolves around “quantization of Lie bialgebras” [EK, En]. But the spirit is right.

**References.**

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```
<< KnotTheory`
Loading KnotTheory` version
of September 6, 2014, 13:37:37.2841.
Read more at http://katlas.org/wiki/KnotTheory.
```

**Loading KnotTheory`** **Table[K → V<sub>3</sub>[K], {K, AllKnots@{3, 7}}]** **Computing V<sub>3</sub>**

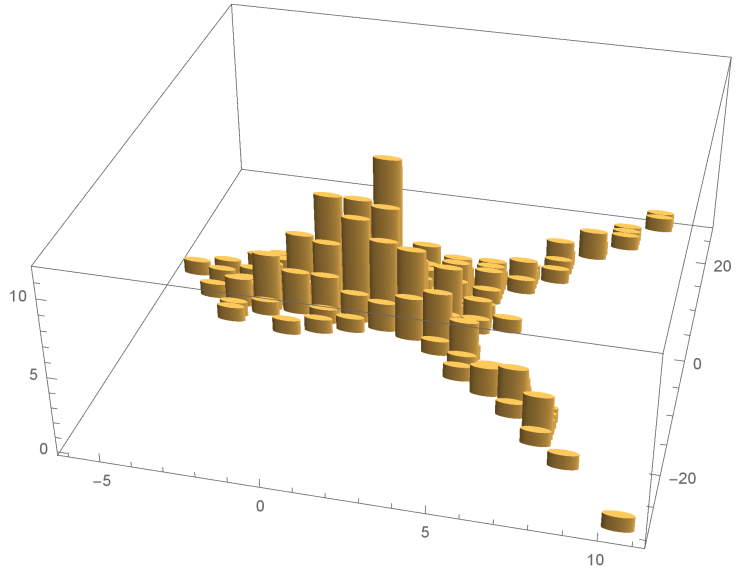
```
{31 → -1, 41 → 0, 51 → -5, 52 → -3, 61 → 1, 62 → 1, 63 → 0,
71 → -14, 72 → -6, 73 → 11, 74 → 8, 75 → -8, 76 → -2, 77 → -1}
```

**GD[g\_GD] := g;** **Gauss Diagram Utilities**

```
GD[L_] := GD@@PD[L] /.
X[i_, j_, k_, l_] => If[PositiveQ@X[i, j, k, l],
Api,i, Amj,i];
Draw[g_GD] := Module[{n = Max@Cases[g, _Integer, ∞]},
Graphics[{
Line[{{0, 0}, {n+1, 0}}],
List@@g /. (ah_)i,j => {
Arrow[BezierCurve[{{i, 0}, {i+j, Abs[j-i]}/2,
{j, 0}}]],
Text[ah /. {Ap → "+", Am → "-"}, {i, 0.3}],
Table[Text[i, {i, -0.5}], {i, n}]}]}]
```

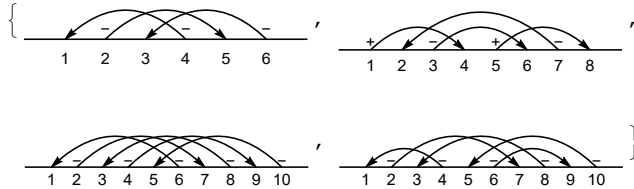
**Histogram3D[** **Willerton's Fish**

```
Table[{V2[K], V3[K]}, {K, AllKnots@{3, 10}}],
{1}]
```



**Draw /@ GD /@ AllKnots@{3, 5}** **Some Gauss Diagrams**

KnotTheory::loading: Loading precomputed data in PD4Knots`.



**GD /@ AllKnots@{3, 5}** **Some Gauss Diagrams, 2**

```
{GD[Am4,1, Am6,3, Am2,5], GD[Ap1,4, Ap5,8, Am3,6, Am7,2],
GD[Am6,1, Am8,3, Am10,5, Am2,7, Am4,9],
GD[Am4,1, Am8,3, Am10,5, Am6,9, Am2,7}
```

**CF[g\_GD] := Sort[** **V<sub>2</sub> Definition**

```
g /. Thread[Sort@Cases[g, _Integer, ∞] →
Range[2 Length[g]]];
PV[F_GD, g_GD] /; Length[F] > Length[g] := 0;
PV[F_GD, g_GD] /; Length[F] < Length[g] := Sum[
PV[F, y], {y, Subsets[g, {Length[F]}]}];
PV[F_GD, g_GD] /; Length[F] == Length[g] := If[
CF[F] == CF[g /. Ap | Am → A], (-1)Count[g, Am_], 0];
V2[g_] := V2[g] = PV[GD[A3,1, A2,4], GD[g]];
```

**Format[Knot[n\_, k\_]] := n<sub>k</sub>;** **Computing V<sub>2</sub>**

```
Table[K → V2[K], {K, AllKnots@{3, 7}}]
{31 → 1, 41 → -1, 51 → 3, 52 → 2, 61 → -2, 62 → -1, 63 → 1,
71 → 6, 72 → 3, 73 → 5, 74 → 4, 75 → 4, 76 → 1, 77 → -1}
```

**PV[F1\_ + F2\_, g\_] := PV[F1, g] + PV[F2, g];** **V<sub>3</sub> Definition**

```
PV[c_*F_GD, g_] := c PV[F, g];
ρk[g_] := g /. i_Integer => Mod[i - k, 2 Length@g, 1];
F3 = ∑k=05 (3 ρk@GD[A1,5, A4,2, A6,3] + 2 ρk@GD[A1,4, A5,2, A3,6]);
V3[K_] := V3[K] = PV[F3, GD@K] / 6;
```

**G[λ]<sub>a,b</sub> := ∂<sub>t<sub>a</sub>, h<sub>b</sub></sub> λ;** **Gassner Utilities**

```
G /: Factor[G[λ_]] :=
G[Collect[λ, h_, Collect[#, t_, Factor] &]];
Format@γ_G := Module[{S = Union@Cases[γ, (h | t)a → a, ∞]},
Table[γa,b, {a, S}, {b, S}] // MatrixForm];
```

**G /: G[λ1\_] G[λ2\_] := G[λ1 + λ2];** **The Gassner Program**

```
ma,b → c[G[λ_]] := Module[{α, β, γ, δ, θ, ε, φ, ψ, Ξ, μ},
{
α β θ
γ δ ε
φ ψ Ξ
} = {
∂ta, ha λ ∂ta, hb λ ∂ta λ
∂tb, ha λ ∂tb, hb λ ∂tb λ
∂ha λ ∂hb λ λ
} /. (t | h)a|b → 0;
μ = 1 - β;
G[Tr[{tc
1}]. (γ + α δ / μ ε + δ θ / μ) . (hc
1)]] /. Ta|b → Tc //
Factor];
Rpa,b := G[Tr[{ta
tb}. {1 1 - Ta}
0 Ta}}. {ha
hb}}];
Rma,b := Rpa,b /. Ta → 1 / Ta;
```

**GG[g\_GD, k\_, F\_, BB\_] :=** **The Gauss-Gassner-Program**

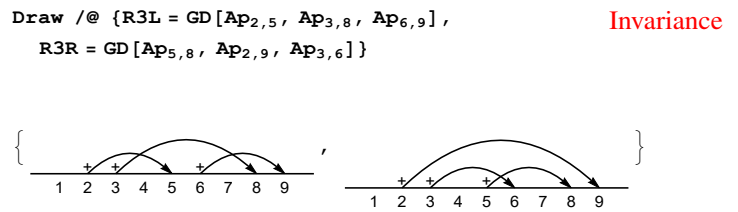
```
Module[{n = 2 Length@g + Length@BB, y, cuts, rr, γ0, γ},
γ0 = G[tn+1 hn+1] Times @@ g /. {Ap → Rp, Am → Rm};
γ0 *= G[Sum[βa,b ta hb, {a, BB}, {b, BB}]];
Sum[γ = γ0;
cuts = Cases[y, _Integer, ∞] ∪ {n+1};
rr = Thread[cuts → Range[Length@cuts]];
Do[If[! MemberQ[cuts, j], γ = γ / mj, j+1+j+1], {j, n}];
F[y /. rr, γ /. (v_)a → va/rr,
(*over*) {y, Subsets[List@@g, k]}];
GG[g_GD, k_, F_] := GG[g, k, F, {}];
```

$$F\left[\{Am_{1,2}\}, \begin{pmatrix} \frac{-1+T_2-T_1 T_2+T_3-T_1 T_3-T_2 T_3+T_1 T_2 T_3}{T_1 T_3} & \frac{(-1+T_1)(1-T_2+T_1 T_2)(-1+T_3)}{T_1 T_3} & \frac{-(-1+T_1)(-1+T_2)}{T_1} \\ \frac{-(-1+T_2)(-1+T_3)}{T_1 T_3} & \frac{-1+T_1+T_2-T_1 T_2+T_3-T_2 T_3+T_1 T_2 T_3}{T_1 T_3} & \frac{-1+T_2}{T_1} \\ \frac{T_2(-1+T_3)}{T_3} & \frac{-(-1+T_1)T_2(-1+T_3)}{T_3} & T_2 \end{pmatrix}\right] +$$

$$F\left[\{Am_{2,1}\}, \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{T_2} & \frac{-1+T_1}{-T_1-T_2+T_1 T_2} & \frac{-(-1+T_1)(-1+T_2)^2}{T_2(-T_1-T_2+T_1 T_2)} \\ \frac{-1+T_2}{T_2} & \frac{1-2T_1-T_2+T_1 T_2}{-T_1-T_2+T_1 T_2} & \frac{-(-1+T_2)(-1+T_1+T_2-2T_1 T_2-T_2^2+T_1 T_2^2)}{T_2(-T_1-T_2+T_1 T_2)} \\ 0 & 0 & T_2 \end{pmatrix}\right] +$$

$$F\left[\{Ap_{1,2}\}, \begin{pmatrix} \frac{-1-2T_1-T_2+T_1 T_2}{-1+T_1+T_2} & \frac{(-1+T_1)^2(-1+T_2)}{-1+T_1+T_2} & 0 \\ \frac{T_1(-1+T_2)}{-1+T_1+T_2} & \frac{-T_1(1-T_1-2T_2+T_1 T_2)}{-1+T_1+T_2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\right] + F\left[\{Ap_{1,2}\}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \frac{(-1+T_1)(1-2T_2-T_3+T_2 T_3)}{-1+T_2+T_3} & \frac{-(-1+T_1)(-1+T_2)}{-1+T_2+T_3} \\ 0 & \frac{-T_1(1-2T_2-T_3+T_2 T_3)}{-1+T_2+T_3} & \frac{T_1(-1+T_2)}{-1+T_2+T_3} \\ 0 & \frac{T_2(-1+T_3)}{-1+T_2+T_3} & \frac{T_3}{-1+T_2+T_3} \end{pmatrix}\right]$$

```
FA[{x_}, y_] := Simplify[
    The Alexander Functional
    Switch[x, Ap_, 1, Am_, -1] *
    Switch[x, _1, 2, y2, 2 y3, 3 - y2, 3 y3, 2,
        y3, 3 + y1, 3 y3, 2 - y1, 2 y3, 3,
        _2, 1, y1, 3 y3, 2 - y1, 2 y3, 3] /. T_ -> T];
GGA[K_, bb___] := GG[GD@K, {1}, FA, bb];
```



```
Simplify@With[{K = Knot[4, 1]},
    {GGA[K], Alexander[K][T], T D_T Log[Alexander[K][T]]}]
    Example: 41
    Simplify[
    GGA[R3L, {1, 4, 7, 10}] == GGA[R3R, {1, 4, 7, 10}] /.
    beta10,b_ -> 1 - beta1,b - beta4,b - beta7,b]
    True
```

```
Table[
    Testing for up to 7 crossings
    K -> Simplify[GGA[K] - T D_T Log[Alexander[K][T]]],
    {K, AllKnots@{3, 7}}]
    {31 -> -1, 41 -> 1, 51 -> -2, 52 -> -2, 61 -> 0, 62 -> 0, 63 -> 0,
    71 -> -3, 72 -> -3, 73 -> 4, 74 -> 4, 75 -> -3, 76 -> -1, 77 -> 2}
```

GG[GD@Knot[4, 1], {1, 2}, F] /. F[y\_List, y\_G] -> F[Column@y, y]

Example: Degree 2 Gauss-Gassner for 4<sub>1</sub>

$$F\left[\{Am_{1,2}\}, \begin{pmatrix} \frac{-1+T_2-T_1 T_2+T_3-T_1 T_3-T_2 T_3+T_1 T_2 T_3}{T_1 T_3} & \frac{(-1+T_1)(1-T_2+T_1 T_2)(-1+T_3)}{T_1 T_3} & \frac{-(-1+T_1)(-1+T_2)}{T_1} \\ \frac{-(-1+T_2)(-1+T_3)}{T_1 T_3} & \frac{-1+T_1+T_2-T_1 T_2+T_3-T_2 T_3+T_1 T_2 T_3}{T_1 T_3} & \frac{-1+T_2}{T_1} \\ \frac{T_2(-1+T_3)}{T_3} & \frac{-(-1+T_1)T_2(-1+T_3)}{T_3} & T_2 \end{pmatrix}\right] +$$

$$F\left[\{Am_{2,1}\}, \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{T_2} & \frac{-1+T_1}{-T_1-T_2+T_1 T_2} & \frac{-(-1+T_1)(-1+T_2)^2}{T_2(-T_1-T_2+T_1 T_2)} \\ \frac{-1+T_2}{T_2} & \frac{1-2T_1-T_2+T_1 T_2}{-T_1-T_2+T_1 T_2} & \frac{-(-1+T_2)(-1+T_1+T_2-2T_1 T_2-T_2^2+T_1 T_2^2)}{T_2(-T_1-T_2+T_1 T_2)} \\ 0 & 0 & T_2 \end{pmatrix}\right] + F\left[\{Ap_{1,2}\}, \begin{pmatrix} \frac{-1-2T_1-T_2+T_1 T_2}{-1+T_1+T_2} & \frac{(-1+T_1)^2(-1+T_2)}{-1+T_1+T_2} & 0 \\ \frac{T_1(-1+T_2)}{-1+T_1+T_2} & \frac{-T_1(1-T_1-2T_2+T_1 T_2)}{-1+T_1+T_2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\right] +$$

$$F\left[\{Ap_{1,2}\}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \frac{(-1+T_1)(1-2T_2-T_3+T_2 T_3)}{-1+T_2+T_3} & \frac{-(-1+T_1)(-1+T_2)}{-1+T_2+T_3} \\ 0 & \frac{-T_1(1-2T_2-T_3+T_2 T_3)}{-1+T_2+T_3} & \frac{T_1(-1+T_2)}{-1+T_2+T_3} \\ 0 & \frac{T_2(-1+T_3)}{-1+T_2+T_3} & \frac{T_3}{-1+T_2+T_3} \end{pmatrix}\right] + F\left[\{Am_{2,3}\}, \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{T_4} & 0 & \frac{-1+T_1}{-T_1-T_2+T_1 T_2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{T_1(-1+T_2)}{T_2} & 0 & \frac{-(-1+T_2)(-1+T_3)}{T_2} \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{T_1}{T_2} & 0 & \frac{-1+T_3}{T_2} \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{T_1}{T_2} & 0 & \frac{-1+T_3}{T_2} \\ \frac{-1+T_4}{T_4} & 0 & \frac{-(-1+T_1)(-1+T_4)}{T_4} & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & T_3 \end{pmatrix}\right] + F\left[\{Ap_{1,2}\}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \frac{-1+T_1}{T_4} & 0 & \frac{-(-1+T_1)(-1+T_2)}{T_2} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{T_1}{T_4} & 0 & \frac{T_1(-1+T_2)}{T_2} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{T_1}{T_4} & 0 & \frac{T_1(-1+T_2)}{T_2} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{-(-1+T_3)(-1+T_4)}{T_4} & 1 & \frac{-1+T_3}{T_2} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{T_3(-1+T_4)}{T_4} & 0 & \frac{T_3}{T_2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\right] +$$

$$F\left[\{Ap_{1,3}\}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1-T_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{-1+T_4-T_2 T_4+T_5-T_4 T_5-T_4 T_5+T_2 T_4 T_5}{T_2 T_5} & 0 & \frac{-1+T_2}{T_2} & \frac{-(-1+T_2)(-1+T_4)}{T_2} \\ 0 & 0 & T_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{-(-1+T_4)(-1+T_5)}{T_2 T_5} & 0 & \frac{1}{T_2} & \frac{-1+T_4}{T_2} \\ 0 & \frac{T_4(-1+T_5)}{T_5} & 0 & 0 & T_4 \end{pmatrix}\right] + F\left[\{Am_{2,4}\}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1-T_1 & \frac{-(-1+T_1)(-1+T_3)}{T_3} & \frac{(-1+T_1)(-1+T_3)(-1+T_4)}{T_3} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{T_4} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & T_1 & \frac{T_1(-1+T_3)}{T_3} & \frac{-T_1(-1+T_3)(-1+T_4)}{T_3} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{-1+T_4}{T_4} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & T_4 \end{pmatrix}\right] +$$

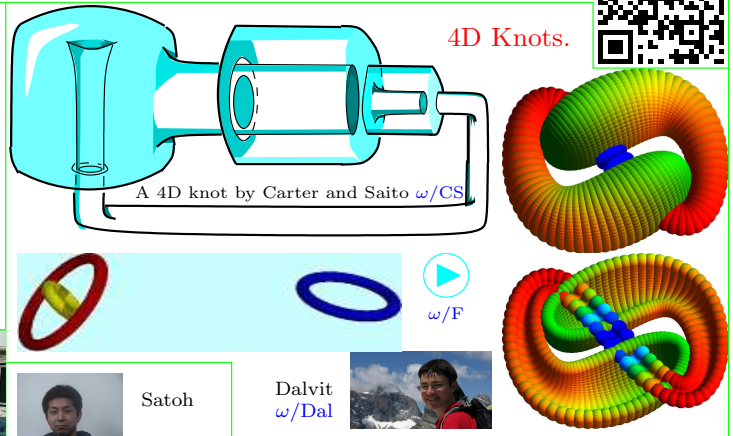
$$F\left[\{Ap_{2,4}\}, \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{T_4} & 0 & \frac{-1+T_1}{-T_1-T_2+T_1 T_2} & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{-(-1+T_2)(-1+T_4)}{T_4} & \frac{-1+T_1+T_2-T_1 T_2+T_4-T_2 T_4+T_1 T_2 T_4}{T_4} & 0 & 1-T_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{T_1} & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{T_2(-1+T_4)}{T_4} & \frac{-(-1+T_1)T_2(-1+T_4)}{T_4} & 0 & T_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\right] + F\left[\{Ap_{2,4}\}, \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{T_3} & \frac{-1+T_1}{-T_1-T_2+T_1 T_2} & \frac{-(-1+T_1)(-1+T_2)}{T_2 T_3} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & T_1 & \frac{T_1(-1+T_2)}{T_2} & 1-T_2 & 0 \\ \frac{-1+T_3}{T_3} & \frac{-(-1+T_1)(-1+T_3)}{T_3} & \frac{-1+T_1+T_2-T_1 T_2-T_1 T_3-T_2 T_3+T_1 T_2 T_3}{T_2 T_3} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & T_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\right]$$



# The Kashiwara-Vergne Problem and Topology

Handout, video, and links at  $\omega$

**Abstract.** I will describe the general “expansions” machine whose inputs are topics in topology (and more) and whose outputs are problems in algebra. There are many inputs the machine can take, and many outputs it produces, but I will concentrate on just one input/output pair. When fed with a certain class of knotted 2-dimensional objects in 4-dimensional space, it outputs the Kashiwara-Vergne Problem (1978  $\omega/KV$ , solved Alekseev-Meinrenken 2006  $\omega/AM$ , elucidated Alekseev-Torossian 2008-2012  $\omega/AT$ ), a problem about convolutions on Lie groups and Lie algebras.



**The Kashiwara-Vergne Conjecture.** There exist two series  $F$  and  $G$  in the completed free Lie algebra  $FL$  in generators  $x$  and  $y$  so that  $x+y-\log e^y e^x = (1-e^{-\text{ad } x})F + (e^{\text{ad } y}-1)G$  in  $FL$  and so that with  $z = \log e^x e^y$ ,



$$\text{tr}(\text{ad } x)\partial_x F + \text{tr}(\text{ad } y)\partial_y G \text{ in cyclic words} \\ = \frac{1}{2} \text{tr} \left( \frac{\text{ad } x}{e^{\text{ad } x} - 1} + \frac{\text{ad } y}{e^{\text{ad } y} - 1} - \frac{\text{ad } z}{e^{\text{ad } z} - 1} - 1 \right)$$

Implies the loosely-stated **convolutions statement**: Convolutions of invariant functions on a Lie group agree with convolutions of invariant functions on its Lie algebra.

**The Machine.** Let  $G$  be a group,  $\mathcal{K} = \mathbb{Q}G = \{\sum a_i g_i : a_i \in \mathbb{Q}, g_i \in G\}$  its group-ring,  $\mathcal{I} = \{\sum a_i g_i : \sum a_i = 0\} \subset \mathcal{K}$  its augmentation ideal. Let

P.S.  $(\mathcal{K}/\mathcal{I}^{m+1})^*$  is Vassiliev / finite-type / polynomial invariants.

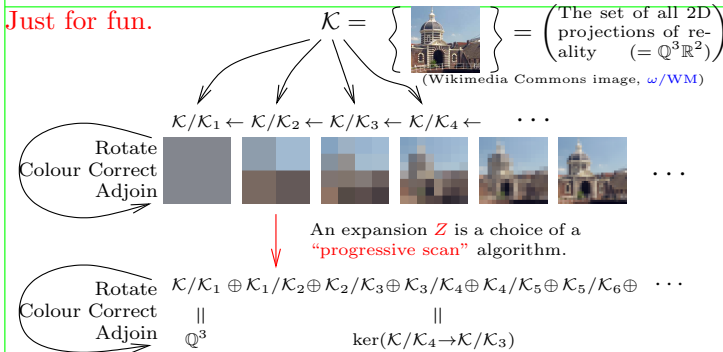
$$\mathcal{A} = \text{gr } \mathcal{K} := \bigoplus_{m \geq 0} \mathcal{I}^m / \mathcal{I}^{m+1}.$$

Note that  $\mathcal{A}$  inherits a product from  $G$ .

**Definition.** A linear  $Z: \mathcal{K} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  is an “expansion” if for any  $\gamma \in \mathcal{I}^m$ ,  $Z(\gamma) = (0, \dots, 0, \gamma/\mathcal{I}^{m+1}, *, \dots)$ , and a “homomorphic expansion” if in addition it preserves the product.

**Example.** Let  $\mathcal{K} = C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$  and  $\mathcal{I} = \{f: f(0) = 0\}$ . Then  $\mathcal{I}^m = \{f: f \text{ vanishes like } |x|^m\}$  so  $\mathcal{I}^m/\mathcal{I}^{m+1}$  is degree  $m$  homogeneous polynomials and  $\mathcal{A} = \{\text{power series}\}$ . The Taylor series is a homomorphic expansion!

Just for fun.



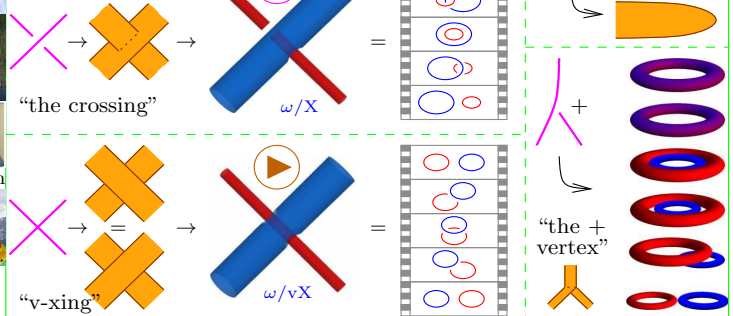
In the finitely presented case, finding  $Z$  amounts to solving a system of equations in a graded space.

**Theorem** (with Zsuzsanna Dancso,  $\omega/WKO$ ). There is a bijection between the set of homomorphic expansions for  $w\mathcal{K}$  and the set of solutions of the Kashiwara-Vergne problem. **This is the tip of a major iceberg!**

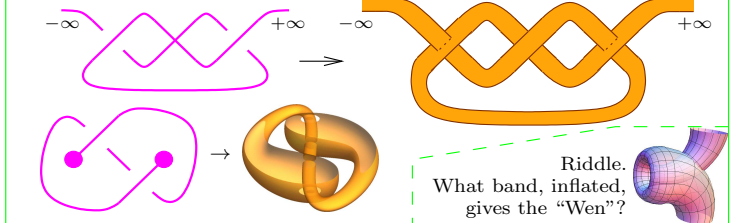


Dancso,  $\omega/ZD$

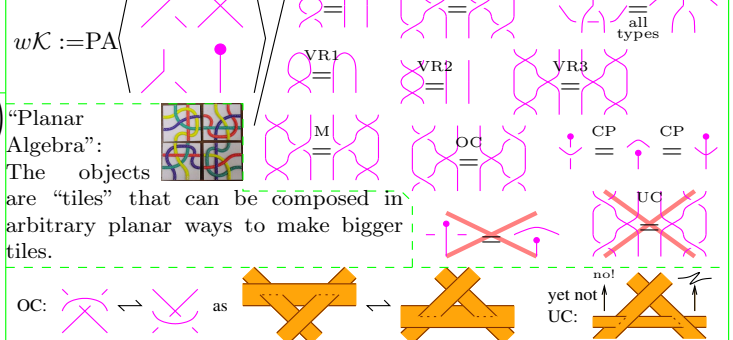
## The Generators



## The Double Inflation Procedure.



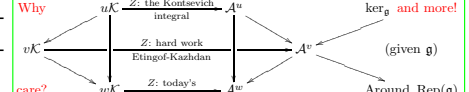
**wKO.**



**The unary w-operations**

Unzip along an annulus, Unzip along a disk

**The Machine** generalizes to arbitrary algebraic structures!



“God created the knots, all else in topology is the work of mortals.”

Leopold Kronecker (modified)

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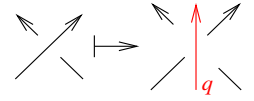


**Abstract.** The subject will be very close to Manturov's representation of  $v\mathcal{B}_n$  into  $\text{Aut}(FG_{n+1})$  — I'll describe how I think about it in terms of a very simple minded map  $\mathcal{K}$  from  $n$ -component  $v$ -tangles to  $(n+1)$ -component  $w$ -tangles. It is possible that you all know this already. Possibly my talk will be very short — it will be as long as it is necessary to describe  $\mathcal{K}$  and say a few more words, and if this is little, so be it.

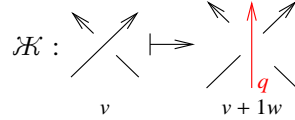
**Back to  $\mathcal{K}$ .** The “crossing the crossings” map  $\mathcal{K}: vT_n \rightarrow wT_{n+1}$  is defined by the picture below. Equally well, it is  $\mathcal{K}: v\mathcal{B}_n \rightarrow w\mathcal{B}_{n+1}$ . Better, it is  $\mathcal{K}: vT_n \rightarrow (nv+1w)T$  or  $\mathcal{K}: v\mathcal{B}_n \rightarrow (nv+1w)B$ .

**Claims.**

- $\mathcal{K}$  is well defined.
- On  $u$ -links,  $\mathcal{K}$  “factors”.
- $\mathcal{K}$  does not respect  $OC$ .
- $\mathcal{K}$  recovers Manturov's  $VG$  and  $\mu: VG(K) = \pi_1(\mathcal{K}(K)), \mu = \mathcal{K} \circ \phi = \phi // \mathcal{K}$ .



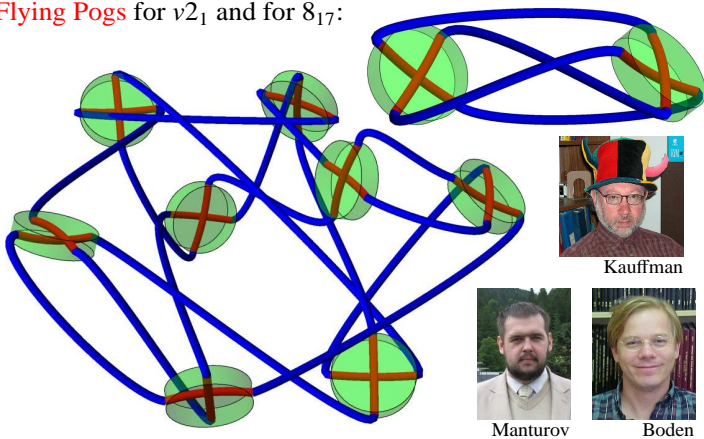
**All you need is  $\mathcal{K}$ ...** • What is its domain? • What is its target? • Why should one care?



**Virtual Knots.** Virtual knots are the algebraic structure underlying the Reidemeister presentation of ordinary knots, without the topology. Locally they are knot diagrams modulo the Reidemeister relations; globally, who cares? So,

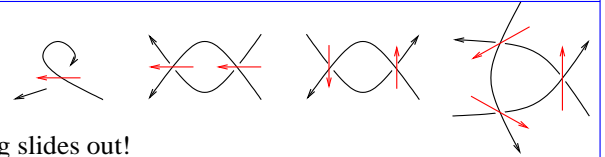
$$vT = CA \langle \overset{*}{\curvearrowright}, \overset{*}{\curvearrowleft}, \times: R1, R2, R3 \rangle \quad CA = \text{“Circuit Algebra”}$$

**Flying Pogs** for  $v2_1$  and for  $8_{17}$ :



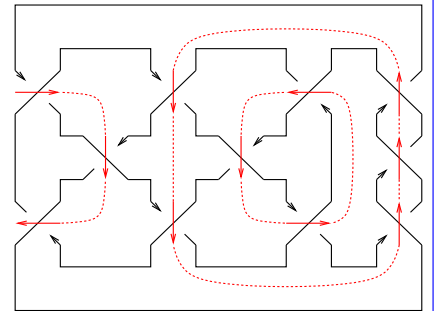
**Even better,**  $\mathcal{K}$  pulls back *any* invariant of 2-component  $w$ -knots to an invariant of virtual knots. In particular, there is a wheel-valued “non-commutative” invariant  $\omega$  as in [BN] and [DBN]: **Talks: Hamilton-1412** (next page). **Likely,** the various “2-variable Alexander polynomials” for virtual knots arise in this way.

**Proof of 1.**



Everything slides out!

**Proof of 2.** The net “red flow” into every face is 0, so the red arrows can be paired. They form cycles that can hover off the picture.



**No proof of 3.** Well, there simply is no proof that  $OC$  is respected, and it's easy to come up with counter-examples.

**No!** Note that also (with  $PA = \text{“Planar Algebra”}$ )

$$vT = PA \langle \overset{*}{\curvearrowright}, \overset{*}{\curvearrowleft}, \times: R1, R2, R3, VR1, VR2, VR3, M \rangle,$$

but I have a prejudice, or a deeply held belief, that **this is morally wrong!**

**Proof of 4.** A simple verification, except my conventions are off...

**My moment of reckoning.** Manturov's  $VG(K)$ : [Ma, BGHNW]

$$\begin{array}{ccc} z \curvearrowright w \rightarrow z = xyx^{-1} & w \curvearrowright z \rightarrow z = x^{-1}yx & z \curvearrowright w \rightarrow z = q^{-1}yq \\ x \curvearrowleft y \rightarrow w = x & y \curvearrowleft x \rightarrow w = x & x \curvearrowleft y \rightarrow w = qxq^{-1} \end{array}$$

Manturov's  $\mu: v\mathcal{B}_n \rightarrow \text{Aut}(F(x_1, \dots, x_n, q))$ : [Ma, BGHNW]

$$\sigma_i = \overset{*}{\curvearrowright}_i \mapsto \begin{cases} x_i \mapsto x_i x_{i+1} x_i^{-1} \\ x_{i+1} \mapsto x_i \end{cases} \quad \tau_i = \times_i \mapsto \begin{cases} x_i \mapsto q x_{i+1} q^{-1} \\ x_{i+1} \mapsto q^{-1} x_i q \end{cases}$$

**Easy resolution.** Setting  $y_i := q^i x_i q^{-i}$ , we find that  $\mu$  is equivalent to

$$\overset{*}{\curvearrowright}_i \mapsto \begin{cases} y_i \mapsto y_i q^{-1} y_{i+1} q y_i^{-1} \\ y_{i+1} \mapsto q y_i q^{-1} \end{cases} \quad \times_i \mapsto \begin{cases} y_i \mapsto y_{i+1} \\ y_{i+1} \mapsto y_i \end{cases},$$

and to me, virtual braids are anyways always pure. So really,

$$\sigma_{ij} \mapsto \begin{cases} y_i \mapsto q y_i q^{-1} \\ y_j \mapsto y_i^{-1} q^{-1} y_j q y_i \end{cases}$$

But why does it exist? **Especially, wherefore  $v\mathcal{B}_n \rightarrow w\mathcal{B}_{n+1}$ ?**

**w-Tangles.**  $wT := vT / OC$  where “Overcrossings Commute” is:



$\pi_1$  is defined on  $wT$ ; Artin's representation  $\phi$  is defined on  $w\mathcal{B}_n$ .

**References.**

[BN] D. Bar-Natan, *Balloons and Hoops and their Universal Finite Type Invariant, BF Theory, and an Ultimate Alexander Invariant*, Acta Mathematica Vietnamica **40-2** (2015) 271–329, arXiv:1308.1721.

[BGHNW] H. U. Boden, A. I. Gaudreau, E. Harper, A. J. Niccas, and L. White, *Virtual Knot Groups and Almost Classical Knots*, arXiv:1506.01726.

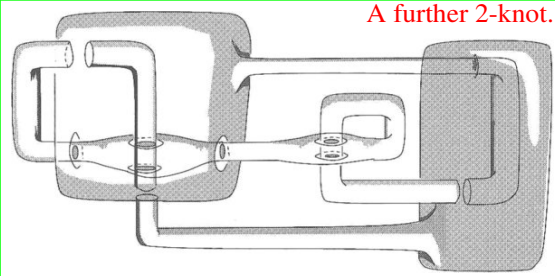
[Ma] V. O. Manturov, *On Invariants of Virtual Links*, Acta Applicandae Mathematica **72-3** (2002) 295–309.

**Prejudices should always be re-evaluated!**



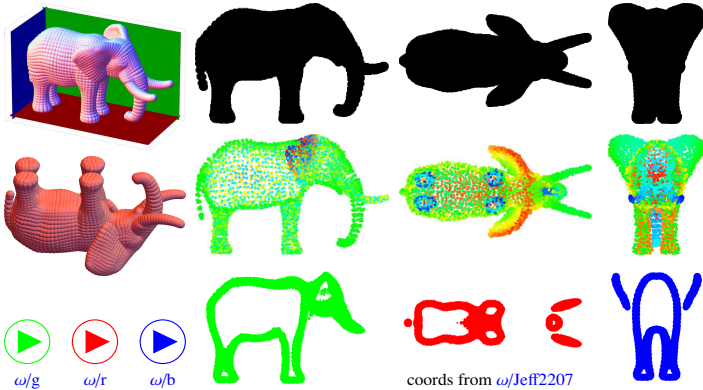


**Abstract.** Much as we can understand 3-dimensional objects by staring at their pictures and x-ray images and slices in 2-dimensions, so can we understand 4-dimensional objects by staring at their pictures and x-ray images and slices in 3-dimensions, capitalizing on the fact that we understand 3-dimensions pretty well. So we will spend some time staring at and understanding various 2-dimensional views of a 3-dimensional elephant, and then even more simply, various 2-dimensional views of some 3-dimensional knots. This achieved, we'll take the leap and visualize some 4-dimensional knots by their various traces in 3-dimensional space, and if we'll still have time, we'll prove that these knots are really knotted.



$\omega/CS$

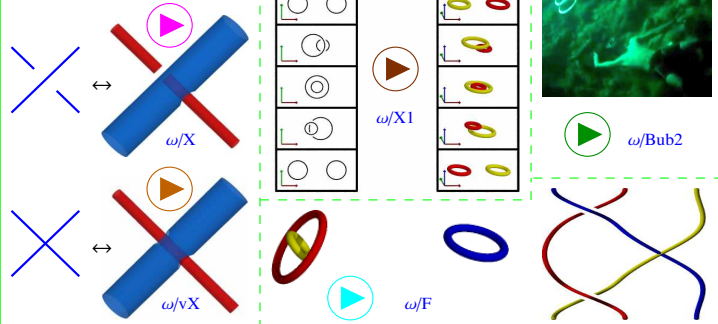
**Warmup: Flatlanders View an Elephant.**



$\omega/g$   $\omega/r$   $\omega/b$

coords from  $\omega/Jeff2207$

**Some Movies**



$\omega/X$

$\omega/X1$

$\omega/Bub2$

$\omega/vX$

$\omega/F$

**Some Unknots**

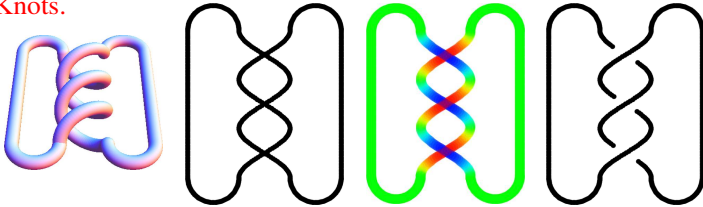


Thistlethwaite's unknot

Scharein's relaxation

Haken's unknot

**Knots.**



"broken curve diagram"



with Ester Dalvit  $\omega/Dal$

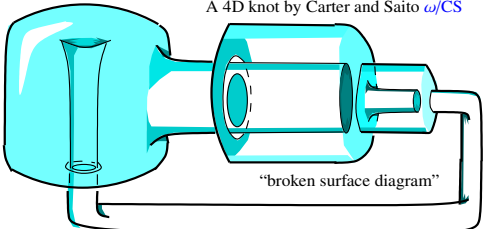


$\omega/M2$

Formally, "a differentiable embedding of  $S^1$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  modulo differentiable deformations of such".

**2-Knots / 4D Knots.** Formally, "a differentiable embedding of  $S^2$  in  $\mathbb{R}^4$  modulo differentiable deformations of such".

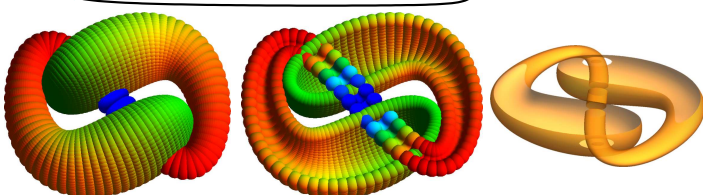
A 4D knot by Carter and Saito  $\omega/CS$



"broken surface diagram"



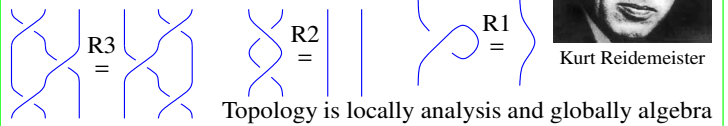
Carter, Banach, Saito



**Reidemeister's Theorem.** (a) Every knot has a "broken curve diagram", made only of curves and "crossings" like  $\times$ . (b) Two knot diagrams represent the same 3D knot iff they differ by a sequence of "Reidemeister moves":

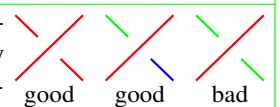


Kurt Reidemeister



Topology is locally analysis and globally algebra

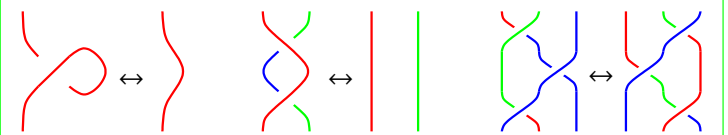
**3-Colourings.** Colour the arcs of a broken arc diagram in RGB so that every crossing is either mono-chromatic or tri-chromatic. Let  $\lambda(K)$  be the number of such 3-colourings that  $K$  has.



**Example.**  $\lambda(\bigcirc) = 3$  while  $\lambda(\bigotimes) = 9$ ; so  $\bigcirc \neq \bigotimes$ .

**Riddle.** Is  $\lambda(K)$  always a power of 3?

**Proof sketch.** It is enough to show that for each Reidemeister move, there is an end-colours-preserving bijection between the colourings of the two sides. E.g.:



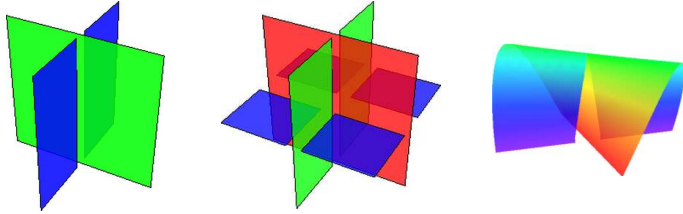
"God created the knots, all else in topology is the work of mortals."

Leopold Kronecker (modified)

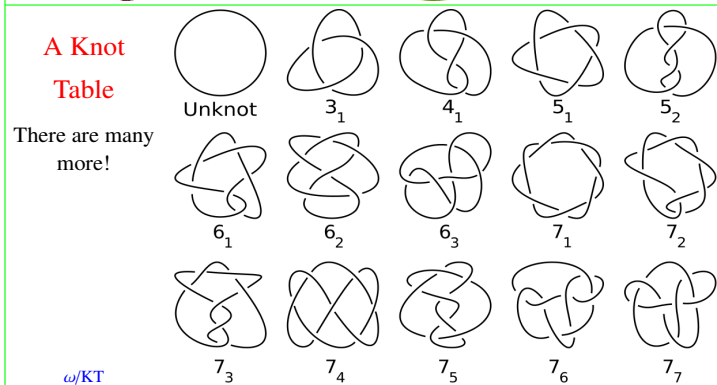
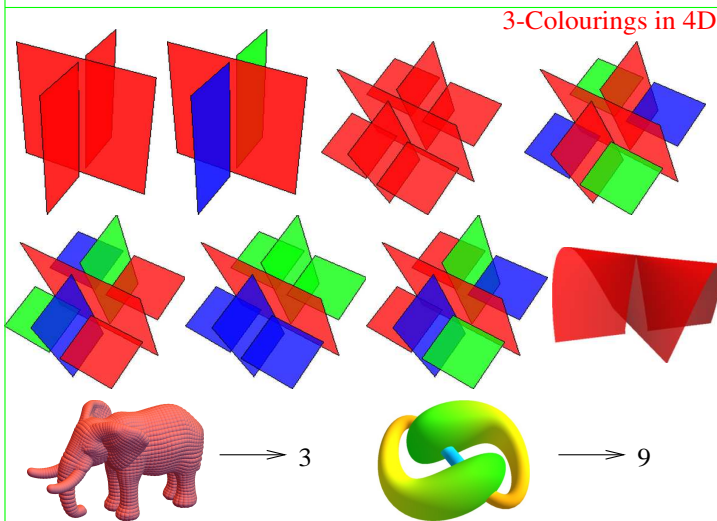
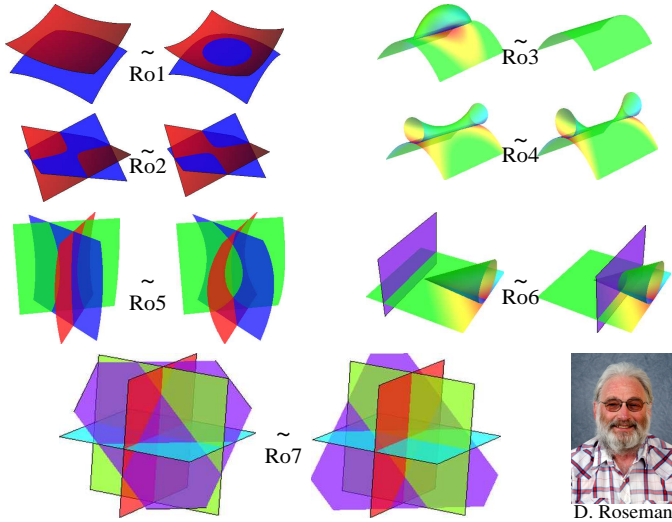
[www.katlas.org](http://www.katlas.org)



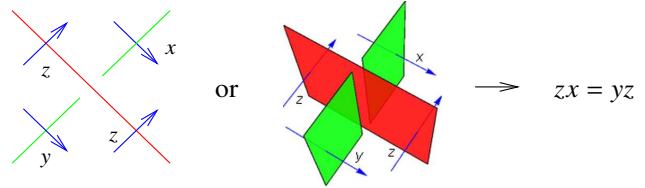
**Theorem.** Every 2-knot can be represented by a “broken surface diagram” made of the following basic ingredients,



... and any two representations of the same knot differ by a sequence of the following “Roseman moves”:

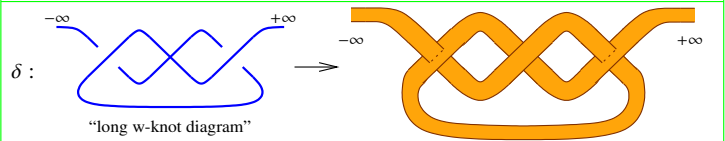


**A Stronger Invariant.** There is an assignment of groups to knots / 2-knots as follows. Put an arrow “under” every un-broken curve / surface in a broken curve / surface diagram and label it with the name of a group generator. Then mod out by relations as below.

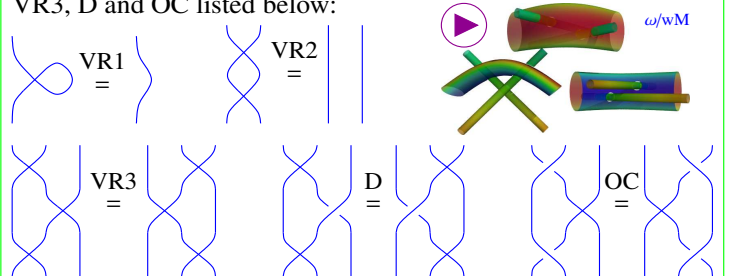


**Facts.** The resulting “Fundamental group”  $\pi_1(K)$  of a knot / 2-knot  $K$  is a very strong but not very computable invariant of  $K$ . Though it has computable projections; e.g., for any finite  $G$ , count the homomorphisms from  $\pi_1(K)$  to  $G$ .

**Exercise.** Show that  $|\text{Hom}(\pi_1(K) \rightarrow S_3)| = \lambda(K) + 3$ .



**Satoh's Conjecture.** (Satoh, *Virtual Knot Presentations of Ribbon Torus-Knots*, J. Knot Theory and its Ramifications **9** (2000) 531–542). Two long w-knot diagrams represent via the map  $\delta$  the same simple long 2D knotted tube in 4D iff they differ by a sequence of R-moves as above and the “w-moves” VR1–VR3, D and OC listed below:



**Some knot theory books.**

- Colin C. Adams, *The Knot Book, an Elementary Introduction to the Mathematical Theory of Knots*, American Mathematical Society, 2004.
- Meike Akveld and Andrew Jobbings, *Knots Unravalled, from Strings to Mathematics*, Arbelos 2011.
- J. Scott Carter and Masahico Saito, *Knotted Surfaces and Their Diagrams*, American Mathematical Society, 1997.
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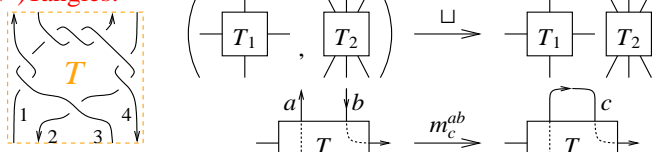




Abstract. The value of things is inversely correlated with their computational complexity. "Real time" machines, such as our brains, only run linear time algorithms, and there's still a lot we don't know. Anything we learn about things doable in linear time is truly valuable. Polynomial time we can in-practice run, even if we have to wait; these things are still valuable. Exponential time we can play with, but just a little, and exponential things must be beautiful or philosophically compelling to deserve attention. Values further diminish and the aesthetic-or-philosophical bar further rises as we go further slower, or un-computable, or ZFC-style intrinsically infinite, or large-cardinalish, or beyond.

I will explain some things I know about polynomial time knot polynomials and explain where there's more, within reach.

**(v-)Tangles.**



**Why Tangles?**

- Finitely presented. (meta-associativity:  $m_a^{ab} // m_a^{ca} = m_b^{bc} // m_a^{ab}$ )
  - Divide and conquer proofs and computations.
  - "Algebraic Knot Theory": If  $K$  is ribbon,  $z(K) \in \{cl_2(\zeta) : cl_1(\zeta) = 1\}$ .  $U \in \mathcal{T}_n$
  - (Genus and crossing number are also definable properties).  $cl_1$ : trivial  $cl_2$ : ribbon  $K \in \mathcal{T}_1$
- Faster is better, leaner is meaner!

**Theorem 1.**  $\exists!$  an invariant  $z_0$ : {pure framed  $S$ -component tangles}  $\rightarrow \Gamma_0(S) := R \times M_{S \times S}(R)$ , where  $R = R_S = \mathbb{Z}((T_a)_{a \in S})$  is the ring of rational functions in  $S$  variables, intertwining

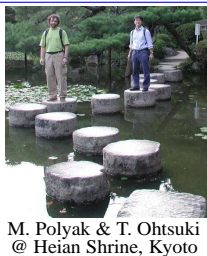
$$\begin{pmatrix} \omega_1 & S_1 \\ S_1 & A_1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \omega_2 & S_2 \\ S_2 & A_2 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\sqcup} \begin{pmatrix} \omega_1 \omega_2 & S_1 & S_2 \\ S_1 & A_1 & 0 \\ S_2 & 0 & A_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \omega & a & b & S \\ a & \alpha & \beta & \theta \\ b & \gamma & \delta & \epsilon \\ S & \phi & \psi & \Xi \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{m_c^{ab}} \begin{pmatrix} \mu\omega & c & S \\ c & \gamma + \alpha\delta/\mu & \epsilon + \delta\theta/\mu \\ S & \phi + \alpha\psi/\mu & \Xi + \psi\theta/\mu \end{pmatrix}$$

and satisfying  $(|a; a \nearrow b, b \nearrow a) \xrightarrow{z_0} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & a & b \\ a & 1 & 1 - T_a^{\pm 1} \\ b & 0 & T_a^{\pm 1} \end{pmatrix}$

**In Addition** • The matrix part is just a stitching formula for Burau/Gassner [LD, KLV, CT].

- $K \mapsto \omega$  is Alexander, mod units.
- $L \mapsto (\omega, A) \mapsto \omega \det(A - I)/(1 - T')$  is the MVA, mod units.
- The fastest Alexander algorithm I know.
- There are also formulas for strand deletion, reversal, and doubling.
- Every step along the computation is the invariant of something.
- Extends to and more naturally defined on v/w-tangles.
- Fits in one column, including propaganda & implementation.



**Implementation key idea:**

```

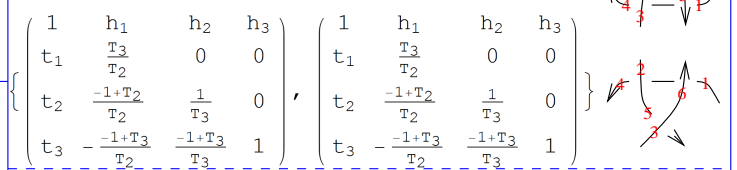
F := F[\omega_1, \lambda_1] F[\omega_2, \lambda_2] := F[\omega_1 * \omega_2, \lambda_1 * \lambda_2];
m_{a,b} \rightarrow c := Module[\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta, \theta, \epsilon, \phi, \psi, \Xi, \mu];
[ \alpha \beta \theta ] := [ \partial_{\alpha, \beta, \gamma} \partial_{\alpha, \beta, \gamma} \partial_{\alpha, \beta, \gamma} ] / (t|h)_{a,b} \rightarrow 0;
[ \gamma \delta \epsilon ] := [ \partial_{\gamma, \delta, \epsilon} \partial_{\gamma, \delta, \epsilon} \partial_{\gamma, \delta, \epsilon} ] / (t|h)_{a,b} \rightarrow 0;
[ \phi \psi \Xi ] := [ \partial_{\phi, \psi, \Xi} \partial_{\phi, \psi, \Xi} \partial_{\phi, \psi, \Xi} ] / (t|h)_{a,b} \rightarrow 0;
Gamma[\mu := 1 - \beta, \omega, {t_c}, 1] := (\gamma + \alpha\delta/\mu \epsilon + \delta\theta/\mu) / (\phi + \alpha\psi/\mu \Xi + \psi\theta/\mu) * (h_c, 1);
S = UnionCases[F[\omega, \lambda], {h|t_c} \rightarrow a, \omega];
M = Outer[Factor[\partial_{h_c, t_c} \lambda], S, S];
M = Prepend[M, t_c & /@ S] // Transpose;
M = Prepend[M, Prepend[h_c & /@ S, \omega]];
M // MatrixForm;

```

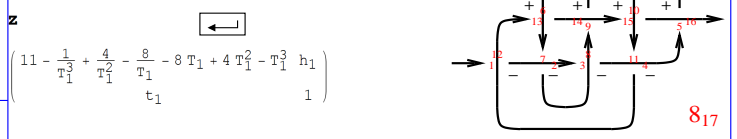
**Meta-Associativity**  $\xi = \Gamma[\omega, \{t_1, t_2, t_3, t_s\}] \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_{11} & \alpha_{12} & \alpha_{13} & \theta_1 \\ \alpha_{21} & \alpha_{22} & \alpha_{23} & \theta_2 \\ \alpha_{31} & \alpha_{32} & \alpha_{33} & \theta_3 \\ \phi_1 & \phi_2 & \phi_3 & \Xi \end{pmatrix} \cdot \{h_1, h_2, h_3, h_s\}$  **Runs.**

$(\xi // m_{12 \rightarrow 1} // m_{13 \rightarrow 1}) = (\xi // m_{23 \rightarrow 2} // m_{12 \rightarrow 1})$

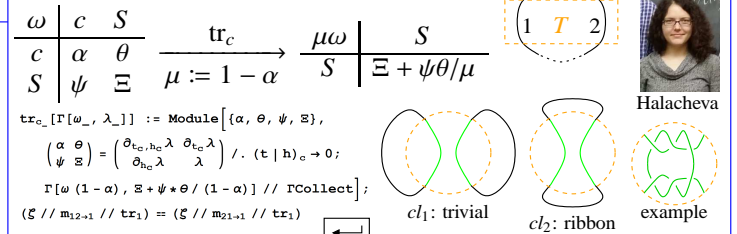
True  $\xrightarrow{R3}$  ... divide and conquer!  
 $\{Rm_{51} Rm_{62} Rp_{34} // m_{14 \rightarrow 1} // m_{25 \rightarrow 2} // m_{36 \rightarrow 3},$   
 $Rp_{61} Rm_{24} Rm_{35} // m_{14 \rightarrow 1} // m_{25 \rightarrow 2} // m_{36 \rightarrow 3}\}$



$z = Rm_{12,1} Rm_{27} Rm_{83} Rm_{4,11} Rp_{16,5} Rp_{6,13} Rp_{14,9} Rp_{10,15}$ ;  
Do  $[z = z // m_{1k \rightarrow 1}, \{k, 2, 16\}]$ ;  
 $z$

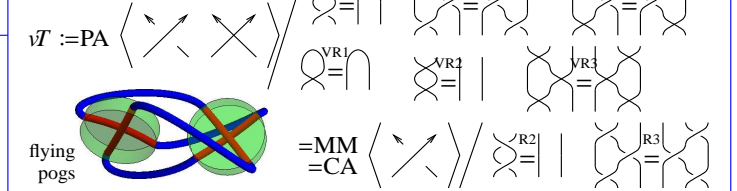


**Closed Components.** The Halacheva trace  $tr_c$  satisfies  $m_c^{ab} // tr_c = m_c^{ba} // tr_c$  and computes the MVA for all links in the atlas, but its domain is not understood:



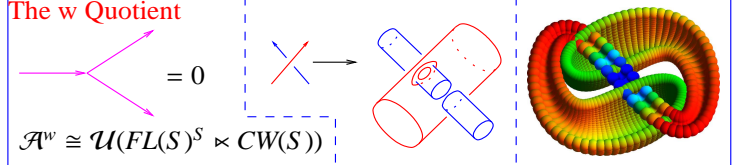
**Weaknesses.** •  $m_c^{ab}$  and  $tr_c$  are non-linear. • The product  $\omega A$  is always Laurent, but my current proof takes induction with exponentially many conditions. • I still don't understand  $tr_c$ , "unitarity", the algebra for ribbon knots. **Where does it come from?**

**v-Tangles.**



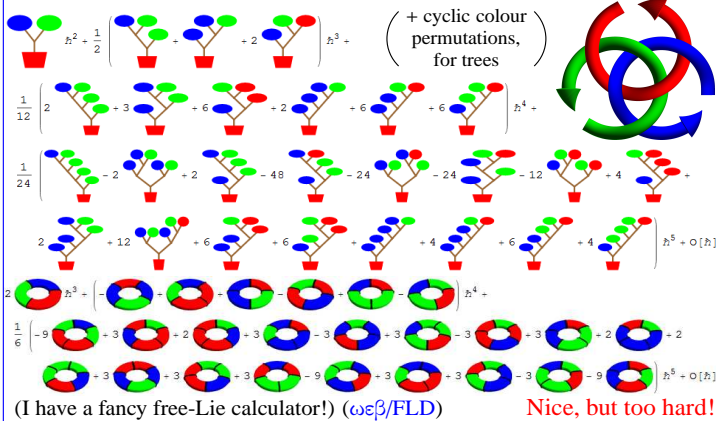
Let  $\mathcal{I} := \langle \times, - \times \rangle$ . Then  $\mathcal{A}^v := \prod I^n / I^{n+1} = \text{"universal } \mathcal{U}(Dg)^{\otimes S} \text{"}$   
 $\langle \times, - \times \rangle \rightarrow \langle \times, - \times \rangle = \langle \times, - \times \rangle + \langle \times, - \times \rangle$  (Also IHX)  
Fine print: No sources no sinks, AS vertices, internally acyclic, deg = (#vertices)/2.

**Likely Theorem.** [EK, En] There exists a homomorphic expansion (universal finite type invariant)  $Z: vT \rightarrow \mathcal{A}^v$ . (issues suppressed)  
**Too hard!** Let's look for "meta-monoid" quotients.



**Theorem 2 [BND].**  $\exists!$  a homomorphic expansion, aka a homomorphic universal finite type invariant  $Z^w$  of pure  $w$ -tangles.  $z^w := \log Z^w$  takes values in  $FL(S)^S \times CW(S)$ .

$z$  is computable.  $z$  of the Borromean tangle, to degree 5 [BN]:



**Definition.** (Compare [BNS, BN]) A **The Abstract Context** meta-monoid is a functor  $M: (\text{finite sets, injections}) \rightarrow (\text{sets})$  (think “ $M(S)$  is quantum  $G^S$ ”, for  $G$  a group) along with natural operations  $*$ :  $M(S_1) \times M(S_2) \rightarrow M(S_1 \sqcup S_2)$  whenever  $S_1 \cap S_2 = \emptyset$  and  $m_c^{ab}: M(S) \rightarrow M((S \setminus \{a, b\}) \sqcup \{c\})$  whenever  $a \neq b \in S$  and  $c \notin S \setminus \{a, b\}$ , such that

$$\text{meta-associativity: } m_a^{ab} // m_a^{ac} = m_b^{bc} // m_a^{ab}$$

$$\text{meta-locality: } m_c^{ab} // m_f^{de} = m_f^{de} // m_c^{ab}$$

and, with  $\epsilon_b = M(S \hookrightarrow S \sqcup \{b\})$ ,

$$\text{meta-unit: } \epsilon_b // m_a^{ab} = Id = \epsilon_b // m_a^{ba}$$

**Claim.** Pure virtual tangles  $PT$  form a meta-monoid.

**Theorem.**  $S \mapsto \Gamma_0(S)$  is a meta-monoid and  $z_0: PT \rightarrow \Gamma_0$  is a morphism of meta-monoids.

**Strong Conviction.** There exists an extension of  $\Gamma_0$  to a bigger meta-monoid  $\Gamma_{01}(S) = \Gamma_0(S) \times \Gamma_1(S)$ , along with an extension of  $z_0$  to  $z_{01}: PT \rightarrow \Gamma_{01}$ , with

$$\Gamma_1(S) = V \oplus V^{\otimes 2} \oplus V^{\otimes 3} \oplus S^2(V)^{\otimes 2} \quad (\text{with } V := R_S(S)).$$

Furthermore, upon reducing to a single variable everything is polynomial size and polynomial time.

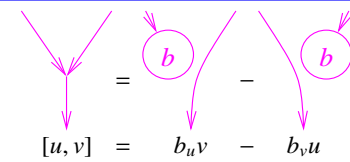
Furthermore,  $\Gamma_{01}$  is given using a “meta-2-cocycle  $\rho_c^{ab}$  over  $\Gamma_0$ ”: In addition to  $m_c^{ab} \rightarrow m_{0c}^{ab}$ , there are  $R_S$ -linear  $m_{1c}^{ab}: \Gamma_1(S \sqcup \{a, b\}) \rightarrow \Gamma_1(S \sqcup \{c\})$ , a meta-right-action  $\alpha^{ab}: \Gamma_1(S) \times \Gamma_0(S) \rightarrow \Gamma_1(S)$   $R_S$ -linear in the first variable, and a first order differential operator (over  $R_S$ )  $\rho_c^{ab}: \Gamma_0(S \sqcup \{a, b\}) \rightarrow \Gamma_1(S \sqcup \{c\})$  such that

$$(\zeta_0, \zeta_1) // m_c^{ab} = (\zeta_0 // m_{0c}^{ab}, (\zeta_1, \zeta_0) // \alpha^{ab} // m_{1c}^{ab} + \zeta_0 // \rho_c^{ab})$$

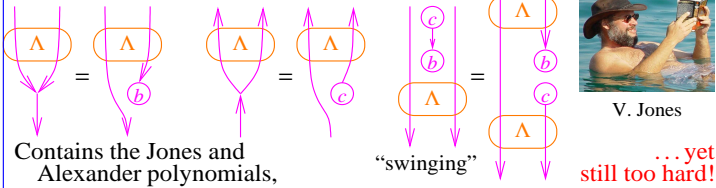
**What's done?** The braid part, with still-ugly formulas.

**What's missing?** A lot of concept- and detail-sensitive work towards  $m_{1c}^{ab}$ ,  $\alpha^{ab}$ , and  $\rho_c^{ab}$ . The “ribbon element”.

**Proposition [BN].** Modulo all relations that universally hold for the 2D non-Abelian Lie algebra and after some changes-of-variable,  $z^w$  reduces to  $z_0$ .



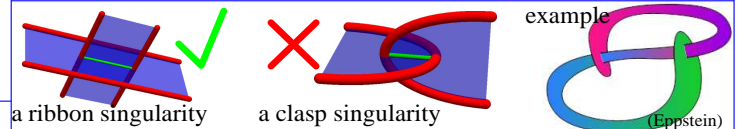
Back to  $v$  – the 2D “Jones Quotient”.



**The OneCo Quotient.** Likely related to [ADO]  $= 0$ , only one co-bracket is allowed. Everything should work, and everything is being worked!

**References.**

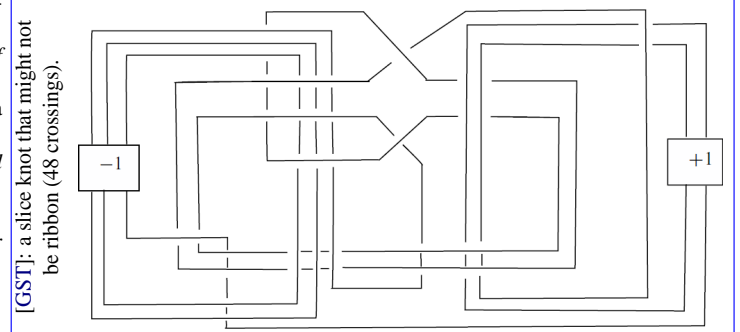
[ADO] Y. Akutsu, T. Deguchi, and T. Ohtsuki, *Invariants of Colored Links*, J. of Knot Theory and its Ramifications **1-2** (1992) 161–184.  
 [BN] D. Bar-Natan, *Balloons and Hoops and their Universal Finite Type Invariant, BF Theory, and an Ultimate Alexander Invariant*,  $\omega\epsilon\beta$ /KBH, arXiv:1308.1721.  
 [BND] D. Bar-Natan and Z. Dancso, *Finite Type Invariants of  $W$ -Knotted Objects I-II*,  $\omega\epsilon\beta$ /WKO1,  $\omega\epsilon\beta$ /WKO2, arXiv:1405.1956, arXiv:1405.1955.  
 [BNS] D. Bar-Natan and S. Selmani, *Meta-Monoids, Meta-Bicrossed Products, and the Alexander Polynomial*, J. of Knot Theory and its Ramifications **22-10** (2013), arXiv:1302.5689.  
 [CT] D. Cimasoni and V. Turaev, *A Lagrangian Representation of Tangles*, Topology **44** (2005) 747–767, arXiv:math.GT/0406269.  
 [En] B. Enriquez, *A Cohomological Construction of Quantization Functors of Lie Bialgebras*, Adv. in Math. **197-2** (2005) 430–479, arXiv:math/0212325.  
 [EK] P. Etingof and D. Kazhdan, *Quantization of Lie Bialgebras, I*, Selecta Mathematica **2** (1996) 1–41, arXiv:q-alg/9506005.  
 [GST] R. E. Gompf, M. Scharlemann, and A. Thompson, *Fibered Knots and Potential Counterexamples to the Property 2R and Slice-Ribbon Conjectures*, Geom. and Top. **14** (2010) 2305–2347, arXiv:1103.1601.  
 [KLW] P. Kirk, C. Livingston, and Z. Wang, *The Gassner Representation for String Links*, Comm. Cont. Math. **3** (2001) 87–136, arXiv:math/9806035.  
 [LD] J. Y. Le Dimet, *Enlacements d'Intervalles et Représentation de Gassner*, Comment. Math. Helv. **67** (1992) 306–315.



**A bit about ribbon knots.** A “ribbon knot” is a knot that can be presented as the boundary of a disk that has “ribbon singularities”, but no “clasp singularities”. A “slice knot” is a knot in  $S^3 = \partial B^4$  which is the boundary of a non-singular disk in  $B^4$ . Every ribbon knot is clearly slice, yet,

**Conjecture.** Some slice knots are not ribbon.

**Fox-Milnor.** The Alexander polynomial of a ribbon knot is always of the form  $A(t) = f(t)f(1/t)$ . (also for slice)



**Help Needed!**  
 I'm slow and feeble-minded.

“God created the knots, all else in topology is the work of mortals.”  
 Leopold Kronecker (modified)  
[www.katlas.org](http://www.katlas.org)  
 The Knot Atlas - Anyone Can Edit





Monday, August 24, 2015 3:10 AM

$$\mathbb{A}^V = \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \text{[Diagram: two strands } j, k \text{ with a loop]} \\ \text{[Diagram: two strands } j, k \text{ with a crossing]} \end{array} \right\rangle \quad \text{(Also IHX (Jacobi))}$$

$$\text{PA}^V / (\text{[Diagram: crossing]} = 0) = \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \text{[Diagram: square with arrows]} \\ \text{[Diagram: four strands meeting at a point]} \end{array} \right\rangle \quad \text{Jacobi}$$

$$\text{PA}^V = \text{PA}^V / \text{co}$$

So

$$\text{PA}^V(\uparrow_s) / (\text{[Diagram: crossing]} = \text{[Diagram: crossing]} - \text{[Diagram: crossing]}) = \widehat{R}_s \oplus M_{s \times s}(\widehat{R}_s)$$

and the rest is (hard!) calculations, which lead to a simple **rational function** result.

$$\text{PA}^V / (\text{[Diagram: crossing]} = 0) = \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \text{[Diagram: circle with strands]} \\ \text{[Diagram: triangle with strands]} \\ \text{[Diagram: oval with strands]} \\ \text{[Diagram: circle with strands]} \end{array} \right\rangle$$

So with  $b_i := \text{[Diagram: circle with strand } i]$   $c_j := \text{[Diagram: circle with strand } j]$   $\delta_s := \text{[Diagram: circle with strand } s]$

$$(\text{PA}^V / \text{co}) / \text{co} \subset \widehat{R}_s \oplus M_{s \times s}(\widehat{R}_s) \oplus \widehat{R}_s \otimes \widehat{R}_s \oplus \widehat{R}_s \otimes \widehat{R}_s \oplus \widehat{R}_s \otimes \widehat{R}_s \oplus \widehat{R}_s \otimes \widehat{R}_s \otimes \widehat{R}_s$$

$$= V_s + V_s^{\otimes 2} + V_s + V_s^{\otimes 2} + V_s^{\otimes 3} + (S^2(V_s))^{\otimes 2}$$

[The product law is awful, but experience shows that things simplify....]

Stitching is clearly possible, but I still don't have explicit formulas.

Proposition The element  $R_{ij}$  given below solves the YB equation

$$R_{12} R_{13} R_{23} = R_{23} R_{13} R_{12}$$

in  $\mathbb{A}^V / \text{co} / \text{co}$ :

$$R_{jk} = e^{j \rightarrow k} e^{\rho}, \text{ with}$$

$$\rho = -\phi_2(b_j) \text{ [Diagram: crossing with strands } j, k]$$

$$+ \frac{\phi_2(b_j)}{b_j} \text{ [Diagram: crossing with strands } j, k]$$

$$+ \frac{\phi_1(b_j)\phi_2(b_k)}{b_k \phi_1(b_k)} \text{ [Diagram: crossing with strands } j, k]$$

$$- \frac{\phi_2(b_j)}{b_j^2} \rho \text{ [Diagram: crossing with strands } j, k]$$

$$- \frac{\phi_1(b_j)\phi_2(b_k)}{b_j b_k \phi_1(b_k)} \rho \text{ [Diagram: crossing with strands } j, k]$$

Where  $\phi_1(x) = e^{-x} - 1$

$$\text{and } \phi_2(x) = \frac{(x+2)e^{-x} - 2 + x}{2x}$$

Loading, initializing variables, setting default degree to 6.

Meaningless calculations.

(The Mathematica packages FreeLie' and AwCalculus' are at œβ/WKO4).

```
path = "C:/drorbn/AcademicPensieve/";
SetDirectory[path <> "2015-08/LesDiablerets-1508"];
Get[path <> "Projects/WKO4/FreeLie.m"];
Get[path <> "Projects/WKO4/AwCalculus.m"];
x = LW@"x"; y = LW@"y"; u = LW@"u";
$SeriesShowDegree = 6;
```

```
FreeLie' implements / extends
{*, **, $SeriesShowDegree, (<), ∫, ≡, ad, Ad, adSeries, AllCyclicWords,
AllLyndonWords, AllWords, Arbitrator, ASeries, AW, b, BCH, BooleanSequence,
BracketForm, BS, CC, Crop, cw, CW, CWS, CWSeries, D, Deg, DegreeScale,
DerivationSeries, div, DK, DKS, DKSeries, EulerE, Exp, Inverse, j, J, JA,
LieDerivation, LieMorphism, LieSeries, LS, LW, LyndonFactorization, Morphism,
New, RandomCWSeries, Randomizer, RandomLieSeries, RC, SeriesSolve, Support, t,
tb, TopBracketForm, tr, UndeterminedCoefficients, oMap, Γ, Λ, σ, h, r, -, -}.
```

FreeLie' is in the public domain. Dror Bar-Natan is committed to support it within reason until July 15, 2022. This is version 150814.

```
AwCalculus' implements / extends
{*, **, ≡, dA, dc, deg, dm, dS, dΔ, dη, dσ, E1, Es, hA, hm, hS, hΔ, hη,
hσ, RandomElSeries, RandomEsSeries, tA, tha, tm, tS, tΔ, tη, tσ, Γ, Λ}.
```

AwCalculus' is in the public domain. Dror Bar-Natan is committed to support it within reason until July 15, 2022. This is version 150814.

BCH[x, y] (\* Can raise degree to 22 \*)

$$\text{LS} \left[ \overline{x} + \overline{y}, \frac{\overline{xy}}{2}, \frac{1}{12} \overline{xx\overline{y}} + \frac{1}{12} \overline{x\overline{y}y}, \frac{1}{24} \overline{xx\overline{y}y}, \right. \\ \left. - \frac{1}{720} \overline{xxx\overline{xy}} + \frac{1}{180} \overline{xxx\overline{y}y} + \frac{1}{180} \overline{xx\overline{y}yy} + \frac{1}{120} \overline{x\overline{y}xyy} + \right. \\ \left. \frac{1}{360} \overline{xx\overline{y}xy} - \frac{1}{720} \overline{x\overline{y}yyy}, - \frac{xxx\overline{xyy}}{1440} + \frac{1}{360} \overline{xxx\overline{y}yy} + \right. \\ \left. \frac{1}{240} \overline{xx\overline{y}xyy} + \frac{1}{720} \overline{xx\overline{y}xy} - \frac{xx\overline{y}yyv}{1440}, \dots \right]$$

KV Direct.

```
{F = LS[{x, y}, Fs], G = LS[{x, y}, Gs]}; Fs["y"] = 1/2;
SeriesSolve[{F, G},
```

$$\hbar^{-1} (\text{LS}[x + y] - \text{BCH}[y, x]) \equiv F - G - \text{Ad}[-x][F] + \text{Ad}[y][G] \wedge \\ \text{div}_x[F] + \text{div}_y[G] \equiv \\ \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}_u \left[ \text{adSeries} \left[ \frac{\text{ad}}{\text{e}_{\text{ad}_1}}, x \right][u] + \text{adSeries} \left[ \frac{\text{ad}}{\text{e}_{\text{ad}_1}}, y \right][u] - \right. \\ \left. \text{adSeries} \left[ \frac{\text{ad}}{\text{e}_{\text{ad}_1}}, \text{BCH}[x, y] \right][u] \right];$$

{F, G} (\* Can raise degree to 13 \*)

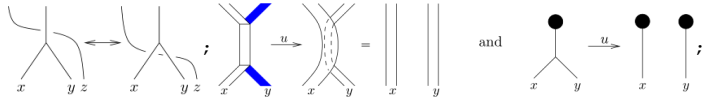
$$\text{LS} \left[ \frac{\overline{y}}{2}, \frac{\overline{xy}}{6}, \frac{1}{24} \overline{xyy}, - \frac{1}{180} \overline{xx\overline{xy}} + \frac{1}{80} \overline{xx\overline{y}y} + \frac{1}{360} \overline{x\overline{y}yy}, \right. \\ \left. - \frac{1}{720} \overline{xxx\overline{xy}} + \frac{1}{240} \overline{xxx\overline{y}y} + \frac{1}{240} \overline{xx\overline{y}yy} + \frac{1}{720} \overline{x\overline{y}xyy} - \right. \\ \left. \frac{\overline{xyy}vv}{1440} + \frac{\overline{xxx\overline{xy}}}{5040} - \frac{\overline{xxx\overline{y}y}}{1344} + \frac{13\overline{xx\overline{xy}}}{15120} + \frac{1}{840} \overline{x\overline{y}xyy} + \right. \\ \left. \frac{\overline{xx\overline{xy}}}{3360} + \frac{\overline{xx\overline{y}y}}{6720} + \frac{\overline{xy\overline{xy}}}{1260} + \frac{\overline{xy\overline{y}y}}{1680} - \frac{\overline{x\overline{y}yyv}}{10080}, \dots \right], \\ \text{LS} \left[ 0, \frac{\overline{xy}}{12}, \frac{1}{24} \overline{xyy}, - \frac{1}{360} \overline{xx\overline{xy}} + \frac{1}{120} \overline{xx\overline{y}y} + \frac{1}{180} \overline{x\overline{y}yy}, \right. \\ \left. - \frac{1}{720} \overline{xxx\overline{xy}} + \frac{1}{240} \overline{xxx\overline{y}y} + \frac{1}{240} \overline{xx\overline{y}yy} + \frac{1}{720} \overline{x\overline{y}xyy} - \right. \\ \left. \frac{\overline{xyy}vv}{1440} + \frac{\overline{xxx\overline{xy}}}{10080} - \frac{\overline{xxx\overline{y}y}}{2016} + \frac{\overline{xx\overline{xy}}}{1890} + \frac{\overline{xx\overline{y}y}}{1120} + \frac{\overline{x\overline{y}xyy}}{5040} + \right. \\ \left. \frac{\overline{xx\overline{y}y}}{2520} + \frac{1}{840} \overline{x\overline{y}xyy} + \frac{\overline{xx\overline{xy}}}{1260} - \frac{\overline{x\overline{y}yyv}}{5040}, \dots \right]$$

{b[F, G], tr\_x[F]}

$$\left\{ \text{LS} \left[ 0, 0, - \frac{1}{24} \overline{xyy}, - \frac{1}{48} \overline{xx\overline{xy}} + \frac{1}{720} \overline{xx\overline{y}y} - \frac{1}{240} \overline{x\overline{y}yy} - \right. \right. \\ \left. \frac{\overline{xyy}vv}{1440} - \frac{1}{720} \overline{xxx\overline{xy}} - \frac{1}{360} \overline{xxx\overline{y}y} + \frac{13\overline{xx\overline{xy}}}{1440} - \right. \\ \left. \frac{1}{480} \overline{xx\overline{y}yy} - \frac{1}{288} \overline{x\overline{y}xyy} - \frac{7\overline{xx\overline{xy}}}{2880} + \frac{\overline{x\overline{y}yyv}}{2880}, \dots \right], \\ \text{CWS} \left[ - \frac{\overline{y}}{6}, \frac{\overline{xy}}{24}, \frac{\overline{xyy}}{180} + \frac{\overline{xx\overline{xy}}}{80} - \frac{\overline{xyy}}{360}, - \frac{\overline{xx\overline{xy}}}{180} + \frac{\overline{xx\overline{y}y}}{240} - \frac{\overline{xx\overline{y}y}}{240} - \frac{\overline{xyy}}{1440}, \right. \\ \left. - \frac{\overline{xxxx\overline{xy}}}{5040} + \frac{\overline{xxxx\overline{y}y}}{6720} - \frac{\overline{xxx\overline{xy}}}{1120} + \frac{2\overline{xx\overline{xy}}}{945} - \frac{\overline{xy\overline{xy}}}{336} + \frac{\overline{xy\overline{y}y}}{6720} + \frac{\overline{xyy}}{10080}, \right. \\ \left. \frac{\overline{xxxx\overline{xy}}}{3360} - \frac{\overline{xxxx\overline{y}y}}{1344} - \frac{\overline{xxx\overline{xy}}}{2240} + \frac{\overline{xxx\overline{y}y}}{2016} + \frac{13\overline{xx\overline{xy}}}{10080} + \frac{\overline{xx\overline{y}y}}{1680} - \right. \\ \left. \frac{\overline{xx\overline{y}y}}{3780} - \frac{\overline{xy\overline{xy}}}{840} + \frac{\overline{xy\overline{y}y}}{5040} + \frac{\overline{xy\overline{xy}}}{2240} + \frac{\overline{xy\overline{y}y}}{6720} + \frac{\overline{xyy}}{60480}, \dots \right] \right\}$$

(Also implemented: ∂\_λ and derivations in general, tb, e^{∂\_λ} and morphisms in general, div, j, Drinfel'd-Kohno, etc.)

The [BND] "vertex" equations.



```
α = LS[{x, y}, αs]; β = LS[{x, y}, βs];
γ = CWS[{x, y}, γs];
V = Es[⟨x → α, y → β⟩, γ];
κ = CWS[{x}, κs]; Cap = Es[⟨x → LS[0]⟩, κ];
Rs[a_, b_] := Es[⟨a → LS[0], b → LS[LW@a]⟩, CWS[0]];
R4Eqn = V ** (Rs[x, z] // dΔ[x, x, y]) ≡ Rs[y, z] ** Rs[x, z] ** V;
UnitarityEqn =
(V ** (V // dA) ≡ Es[⟨x → LS[0], y → LS[0]⟩, CWS[0]]);
CapEqn = ((V ** (Cap // dΔ[x, x, y]) // dc[x] // dc[y]) ≡
(Cap (Cap // dσ[x, y]) // dc[x] // dc[y]));
βs["x"] = 1/2; βs["y"] = 0;
SeriesSolve[{α, β, γ, κ},
(ħ⁻¹ R4Eqn) ∧ UnitarityEqn ∧ CapEqn];
{V, κ}
```

SeriesSolve:ArbitrarilySetting: In degree 1 arbitrarily setting {κs[x] → 0}.  
SeriesSolve:ArbitrarilySetting: In degree 3 arbitrarily setting {αs[x, y] → 0}.  
SeriesSolve:ArbitrarilySetting: In degree 5 arbitrarily setting {αs[x, x, y] → 0}.  
General:stop:  
Further output of SeriesSolve:ArbitrarilySetting will be suppressed during this calculation. >>

$$\left\{ \text{Es} \left[ \overline{x} \rightarrow \text{LS} \left[ 0, - \frac{\overline{xy}}{24}, 0, \frac{7\overline{xx\overline{xy}}}{5760} - \frac{7\overline{xx\overline{y}y}}{5760} + \frac{\overline{x\overline{y}yy}}{1440}, 0, \right. \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. - \frac{31\overline{xxx\overline{xy}}}{967680} + \frac{31\overline{xxx\overline{y}y}}{483840} - \frac{83\overline{xx\overline{xy}}}{967680} - \frac{31\overline{xx\overline{y}y}}{725760} - \frac{31\overline{xx\overline{xy}xy}}{645120} + \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. \frac{13\overline{xx\overline{xy}yy}}{241920} + \frac{101\overline{xy\overline{xy}yy}}{1451520} + \frac{527\overline{xy\overline{y}y}}{5806080} - \frac{\overline{xyy}vv}{60480}, \dots \right], \right. \\ \left. \overline{y} \rightarrow \text{LS} \left[ \frac{\overline{x}}{2}, - \frac{\overline{xy}}{12}, 0, \frac{\overline{xx\overline{xy}}}{5760} - \frac{1}{720} \overline{xx\overline{y}y} + \frac{1}{720} \overline{x\overline{y}yy} - \frac{\overline{xx\overline{xy}xy}}{7680} + \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. \frac{\overline{xx\overline{xy}}}{3840} - \frac{\overline{xx\overline{y}y}}{6912} - \frac{\overline{xxx\overline{xy}}}{645120} + \frac{23\overline{xxx\overline{y}y}}{483840} - \frac{13\overline{xx\overline{xy}yy}}{161280} - \frac{\overline{xx\overline{xy}xy}}{22680} - \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. \frac{41\overline{xx\overline{xy}yy}}{580608} + \frac{\overline{xx\overline{y}y}}{15120} + \frac{\overline{xy\overline{xy}yy}}{12096} + \frac{71\overline{xy\overline{y}y}}{483840} - \frac{\overline{xyy}vv}{30240}, \dots \right] \right\}, \\ \text{CWS} \left[ 0, - \frac{\overline{xy}}{48}, 0, \frac{\overline{xx\overline{xy}}}{2880} + \frac{\overline{xx\overline{y}y}}{2880} + \frac{\overline{xy\overline{xy}}}{5760} + \frac{\overline{xyy}}{2880}, 0, \right. \\ \left. - \frac{\overline{xxxx\overline{xy}}}{120960} - \frac{\overline{xxxx\overline{y}y}}{120960} - \frac{\overline{xxx\overline{xy}}}{120960} - \frac{\overline{xx\overline{xy}}}{241920} - \frac{\overline{xx\overline{y}y}}{120960} - \right. \\ \left. \frac{\overline{xx\overline{xy}yy}}{120960} - \frac{\overline{xx\overline{y}y}}{362880} - \frac{\overline{xy\overline{xy}}}{120960} - \frac{\overline{xy\overline{y}y}}{241920} - \frac{\overline{xyy}}{120960}, \dots \right], \\ \text{CWS} \left[ 0, - \frac{\overline{xx}}{96}, 0, \frac{\overline{xxxx}}{11520}, 0, - \frac{\overline{xxxx}}{725760}, \dots \right]$$

From  $V$  to  $F$  to  $KV$  following [AT].

$\log F = \Lambda[V][1] // \text{d}\sigma\{x, y\} \rightarrow \{y, x\};$   
 $\log F // \text{EulerE} // \text{adSeries}\left[\frac{\text{ad}_1}{\text{ad}}, \log F, \text{tb}\right]$

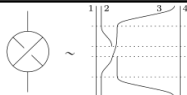
$$\begin{aligned} \overline{x} \rightarrow \text{LS} & \left[ \frac{\overline{y}}{2}, \frac{\overline{xy}}{6}, \frac{1}{24} \overline{xyy}, -\frac{1}{180} \overline{xxxxy} + \frac{1}{80} \overline{xyxy} + \frac{1}{360} \overline{xyyy}, \right. \\ & -\frac{1}{720} \overline{xxxxxy} + \frac{1}{240} \overline{xyxyy} + \frac{1}{240} \overline{xyxyy} + \frac{1}{720} \overline{xyxyxy} - \\ & \frac{\overline{xyyy}}{1440}, \frac{\overline{xxxxxy}}{5040} - \frac{\overline{xxxxy}}{1344} + \frac{13 \overline{xyxyy}}{15120} + \frac{1}{840} \overline{xyxyxy} + \\ & \left. \frac{\overline{xyxyxy}}{3360} + \frac{\overline{xyxyyy}}{6720} + \frac{\overline{xyxyyy}}{1260} + \frac{\overline{xyxyxy}}{1680} - \frac{\overline{xyyy}}{10080}, \dots \right], \\ \overline{y} \rightarrow \text{LS} & \left[ 0, \frac{\overline{xy}}{12}, \frac{1}{24} \overline{xyy}, -\frac{1}{360} \overline{xxxxy} + \frac{1}{120} \overline{xyxy} + \frac{1}{180} \overline{xyyy}, \right. \\ & -\frac{1}{720} \overline{xxxxxy} + \frac{1}{240} \overline{xyxyy} + \frac{1}{240} \overline{xyxyy} + \frac{1}{720} \overline{xyxyxy} - \\ & \frac{\overline{xyyy}}{1440}, \frac{\overline{xxxxxy}}{10080} - \frac{\overline{xxxxy}}{2016} + \frac{\overline{xyxyy}}{1890} + \frac{\overline{xyxyxy}}{1120} + \frac{\overline{xyxyxy}}{5040} + \\ & \left. \frac{\overline{xyxyyy}}{2520} + \frac{1}{840} \overline{xyxyyy} + \frac{\overline{xyxyxy}}{1260} - \frac{\overline{xyyy}}{5040}, \dots \right] \end{aligned}$$

$\overline{\mathfrak{s}}[2, 1] = \overline{\mathfrak{s}}[3, 1] = \overline{\mathfrak{s}}[3, 2] = 0$ ; Solving for an associator  $\Phi$ .  
 $\overline{\mathfrak{s}}[3, 1, 2] = 1/24$ ;  $\overline{\mathfrak{s}} = \text{DKS}[3, \overline{\mathfrak{s}}]$ ;  
**SeriesSolve** $[\overline{\mathfrak{s}},$   
 $(\overline{\mathfrak{s}}^{\sigma[3,2,1]} \equiv -\overline{\mathfrak{s}}) \wedge$   
 $(\overline{\mathfrak{s}}^{**} \overline{\mathfrak{s}}^{\sigma[1,23,4]} ** \overline{\mathfrak{s}}^{\sigma[2,3,4]} \equiv \overline{\mathfrak{s}}^{\sigma[12,3,4]} ** \overline{\mathfrak{s}}^{\sigma[1,2,34]})];$   
 $\overline{\mathfrak{s}} (* \text{ Can raise degree to } 10 *)$

SeriesSolve::ArbitrarilySetting: In degree 3 arbitrarily setting  $\{\Phi[3, 1, 1, 2] \rightarrow 0\}$ .  
 SeriesSolve::ArbitrarilySetting: In degree 5 arbitrarily setting  $\{\Phi[3, 1, 1, 1, 1, 2] \rightarrow 0\}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{DKS} & \left[ 0, \frac{1}{24} \overline{t_{13} t_{23}}, 0, -\frac{7 \overline{t_{13} t_{23} t_{23} t_{23}}}{5760} + \frac{7 \overline{t_{13} t_{13} t_{23} t_{23}}}{5760} - \frac{\overline{t_{13} t_{13} t_{13} t_{23}}}{1440}, \right. \\ & 0, \frac{31 \overline{t_{13} t_{23} t_{23} t_{23} t_{23}}}{967680} - \frac{157 \overline{t_{13} t_{13} t_{23} t_{23} t_{13} t_{23}}}{1935360} - \\ & \frac{31 \overline{t_{13} t_{23} t_{13} t_{23} t_{23} t_{23}}}{387072} - \frac{31 \overline{t_{13} t_{13} t_{23} t_{23} t_{23} t_{23}}}{483840} + \\ & \frac{11 \overline{t_{13} t_{13} t_{13} t_{23} t_{13} t_{23}}}{290304} + \frac{31 \overline{t_{13} t_{13} t_{23} t_{13} t_{23} t_{23}}}{725760} + \frac{83 \overline{t_{13} t_{13} t_{13} t_{23} t_{23} t_{23}}}{967680} - \\ & \left. \frac{13 \overline{t_{13} t_{13} t_{13} t_{13} t_{23} t_{23}}}{241920} + \frac{\overline{t_{13} t_{13} t_{13} t_{13} t_{13} t_{23}}}{60480}, \dots \right] \end{aligned}$$

The "buckle"  $Z_B$ , from  $\Phi$ .



$R = \text{DKS}[t[1, 2] / 2];$   
 $Z_B = (-\overline{\mathfrak{s}})^{\sigma[13,2,4]} ** \overline{\mathfrak{s}}^{\sigma[1,3,2]} ** R^{\sigma[2,3]} ** (-\overline{\mathfrak{s}})^{\sigma[1,2,3]} **$   
 $\overline{\mathfrak{s}}^{\sigma[12,3,4]};$   
 $Z_B @ \{4\}$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{DKS} & \left[ \frac{\overline{t_{23}}}{2}, -\frac{1}{12} \overline{t_{13} t_{23}} - \frac{1}{24} \overline{t_{14} t_{24}} + \frac{1}{24} \overline{t_{14} t_{34}} + \frac{1}{12} \overline{t_{24} t_{34}}, \right. \\ & 0, \frac{\overline{t_{13} t_{23} t_{23} t_{23}}}{5760} + \frac{7 \overline{t_{14} t_{24} t_{24} t_{24}}}{5760} + \frac{\overline{t_{14} t_{34} t_{24} t_{24}}}{1920} - \\ & \frac{\overline{t_{14} t_{34} t_{34} t_{24}}}{1920} - \frac{7 \overline{t_{14} t_{34} t_{34} t_{34}}}{5760} - \frac{\overline{t_{24} t_{34} t_{34} t_{34}}}{5760} + \frac{\overline{t_{14} t_{24} t_{34} t_{24}}}{1920} + \\ & \frac{\overline{t_{14} t_{24} t_{14} t_{34}}}{1920} - \frac{\overline{t_{14} t_{34} t_{24} t_{34}}}{1920} - \frac{1}{720} \overline{t_{13} t_{13} t_{23} t_{23}} + \\ & \frac{1}{720} \overline{t_{13} t_{13} t_{13} t_{23}} - \frac{7 \overline{t_{14} t_{14} t_{24} t_{24}}}{5760} + \frac{7 \overline{t_{14} t_{14} t_{34} t_{34}}}{5760} - \\ & \frac{\overline{t_{14} t_{24} t_{34} t_{34}}}{5760} + \frac{\overline{t_{14} t_{14} t_{14} t_{24}}}{1440} - \frac{\overline{t_{14} t_{14} t_{14} t_{34}}}{1440} - \frac{1}{960} \overline{t_{14} t_{14} t_{24} t_{34}} + \\ & \left. \frac{\overline{t_{14} t_{24} t_{24} t_{34}}}{5760} - \frac{1}{960} \overline{t_{24} t_{24} t_{34} t_{34}} - \frac{\overline{t_{24} t_{24} t_{24} t_{34}}}{5760}, \dots \right] \end{aligned}$$

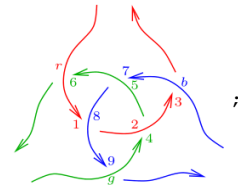
$V$  from  $Z_B$ , following [AET, BND].

$(\text{E1}[Z_B // \alpha\text{Map}[1, 2, 3, 4], \text{CWS}[0]] // \Gamma // \text{t}\eta^1 // \text{t}\eta^3 //$   
 $\text{h}\eta^2 // \text{h}\eta^4 // \text{h}\sigma\{3\} \rightarrow \{2\} // \text{t}\sigma\{2, 4\} \rightarrow \{1, 2\})[[$   
 $1]]$

$$\begin{aligned} 1 \rightarrow \text{LS} & \left[ 0, -\frac{\overline{12}}{24}, 0, \frac{\overline{71112}}{5760} - \frac{\overline{71122}}{5760} + \frac{\overline{1222}}{1440}, 0, \right. \\ & -\frac{31111112}{967680} + \frac{31111122}{483840} - \frac{83111222}{967680} - \frac{31112122}{725760} - \frac{31111212}{645120} + \\ & \frac{13112222}{241920} + \frac{10112122}{1451520} + \frac{527112212}{5806080} - \frac{\overline{122222}}{60480}, \dots \Big], \\ 2 \rightarrow \text{LS} & \left[ \frac{\overline{1}}{2}, -\frac{\overline{12}}{12}, 0, \frac{\overline{1112}}{5760} - \frac{1}{720} \overline{1122} + \frac{1}{720} \overline{1222}, \right. \\ & -\frac{\overline{11112}}{7680} + \frac{\overline{11122}}{3840} - \frac{\overline{11212}}{6912}, \\ & -\frac{\overline{111112}}{645120} + \frac{\overline{23111122}}{483840} - \frac{\overline{13111222}}{161280} - \frac{\overline{112122}}{22680} - \frac{\overline{41111212}}{580608} + \\ & \left. \frac{\overline{112222}}{15120} + \frac{\overline{121222}}{12096} + \frac{\overline{71112212}}{483840} - \frac{\overline{122222}}{30240}, \dots \right] \end{aligned}$$

The Borromean tangle.

$\text{Rs}[a_, b_] := \text{Es}[\langle a \rightarrow \text{LS}[0], b \rightarrow \text{LS}[\text{LW}@a] \rangle, \text{CWS}[0]];$   
 $\text{iRs}[a_, b_] := \text{Es}[\langle a \rightarrow \text{LS}[0], b \rightarrow -\text{LS}[\text{LW}@a] \rangle, \text{CWS}[0]];$   
 $\xi = \text{iRs}[r, 6] \text{Rs}[2, 4] \text{iRs}[g, 9] \text{Rs}[5, 7] \text{iRs}[b, 3] \text{Rs}[8, 1];$



$\text{Do}[\xi = \xi // \text{dm}[r, k, r], \{k, 1, 3\}];$   
 $\text{Do}[\xi = \xi // \text{dm}[g, k, g], \{k, 4, 6\}];$   
 $\text{Do}[\xi = \xi // \text{dm}[b, k, b], \{k, 7, 9\}];$   
 $\{\xi[[1]]_r @ \{5\}, \xi[[2]] @ \{5\}\} // \text{Print}$

$$\begin{aligned} \{ \text{LS} & \left[ 0, \overline{bg}, \frac{1}{2} \overline{bbg} + \overline{bgr} + \frac{1}{2} \overline{bgg}, \right. \\ & \frac{1}{6} \overline{b bbg} + \frac{1}{2} \overline{b bgr} + \frac{1}{2} \overline{b ggr} + \frac{1}{4} \overline{b bgg} + \frac{1}{2} \overline{b grr} + \frac{1}{6} \overline{bggg}, \\ & \frac{1}{24} \overline{bb bbg} + \frac{1}{6} \overline{bb bgr} + \frac{1}{4} \overline{bb bggr} + \frac{1}{12} \overline{bb bgg} + \\ & \frac{1}{4} \overline{bb grr} + \frac{1}{6} \overline{bg ggr} + \frac{1}{4} \overline{bg grr} - \overline{b bgr} g + \\ & \frac{1}{12} \overline{b bggg} - 2 \overline{b brr} g + \frac{1}{6} \overline{b grrr} + \frac{1}{2} \overline{b bggr} - \\ & \overline{bg brr} - \frac{1}{12} \overline{bbg bg} - \frac{1}{2} \overline{bgr gr} + \frac{1}{24} \overline{bggg gg}, \dots \Big], \\ \text{CWS} & \left[ 0, 0, 2 \overline{bgr}, \overline{bbgr} - \overline{bgbr} + \overline{bggr} - \overline{bgrg} + \overline{bgrr} - \overline{brgr}, \frac{\overline{bbgr}}{3} - \right. \\ & \frac{\overline{bbgr}}{2} + \frac{\overline{bbgr}}{2} + \frac{\overline{bbgr}}{2} + \frac{\overline{bbgr}}{2} + \frac{\overline{bbgr}}{2} - \frac{3 \overline{bbgr}}{2} + \frac{\overline{bbgr}}{2} - \frac{3 \overline{bbgr}}{2} + \frac{\overline{bbgr}}{3} - \\ & \frac{\overline{bbgr}}{2} + \frac{\overline{bbgr}}{2} + \frac{\overline{bbgr}}{2} - \frac{3 \overline{bbgr}}{2} + \frac{\overline{bbgr}}{3} + \frac{\overline{bbgr}}{2} - \frac{\overline{bbgr}}{2} + \frac{\overline{bbgr}}{2}, \dots \Big] \end{aligned}$$

References.

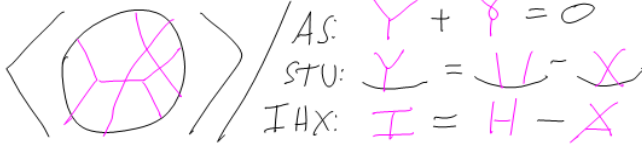
[AT] A. Alekseev and C. Torossian, *The Kashiwara-Vergne conjecture and Drinfeld's associators*, Annals of Mathematics **175** (2012) 415–463, arXiv:0802.4300.  
 [AET] A. Alekseev, B. Enriquez, and C. Torossian, *Drinfeld's associators, braid groups and an explicit solution of the Kashiwara-Vergne equations*, Publications Mathématiques de L'IHÉS, **112-1** (2010) 143–189, arXiv:0903.4067  
 [BND] D. Bar-Natan and Z. Dancso, *Finite Type Invariants of W-Knotted Objects I-IV*,  $\omega\epsilon\beta/\text{WKO1}$ ,  $\omega\epsilon\beta/\text{WKO2}$ ,  $\omega\epsilon\beta/\text{WKO3}$ ,  $\omega\epsilon\beta/\text{WKO4}$ , and arXiv:1405.1956, arXiv:1405.1955, arXiv: not.yetx2.

Warning. Fidgety!

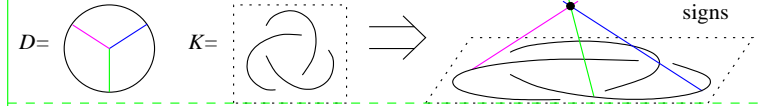
**Day 3: Chern-Simons, Gaussian Integration, Feynman Diagrams**

Cosmic Coincidences

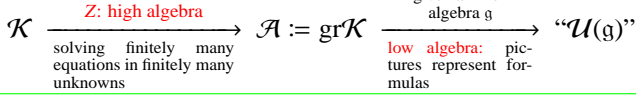
Recall.  $\mathcal{K} = \{\text{knots}\}$ ,  $\mathcal{A} := \text{gr}\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{D}/\text{rels} =$



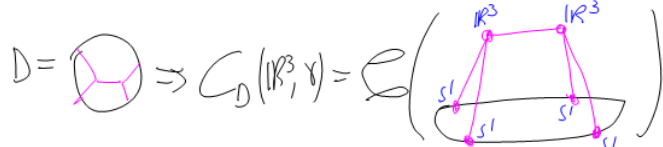
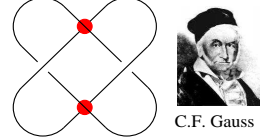
$\langle D, K \rangle_{\mathbb{N}} :=$  (The signed Stonehenge) :  
pairing of  $D$  and  $K$



Seek  $Z: \mathcal{K} \rightarrow \hat{\mathcal{A}}$  such that if  $K$  is  $n$ -singular,  $Z(K) = D_k + \dots$



The Gaussian linking number =  $\langle \text{vertical chopsticks}, \text{knot} \rangle_{\mathbb{N}}$



The generating function of all cosmic coincidences:

$$Z(K) := \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{\text{3-valent } D} \frac{\langle D, K \rangle_{\mathbb{N}} D}{2^c c! \binom{N}{c}} \in \mathcal{A}$$



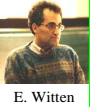
Theorem. Given a parametrized knot  $\gamma$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , up to renormalizing the "framing anomaly",

$$Z(\gamma) = \sum_{D \in \mathcal{D}} \frac{C(D)D}{|\text{Aut}(D)|} \int_{C_D(\mathbb{R}^3, \gamma)} \bigwedge_{e \in E(D)} \phi_e^* \omega \in \mathcal{A}$$

is an expansion. Here  $\mathcal{D}$  is the set of all "Feynman diagrams",  $E(D)$  is the set of internal edges (and chords) of  $D$ ,  $C_D(\mathbb{R}^3, \gamma)$  is the configuration space of placements of  $D$  on/around  $\gamma$ ,  $\phi: C_D(\mathbb{R}^3, \gamma) \rightarrow (S^2)^{E(D)}$  is the "direction of the edges" map, and  $\omega$  is a volume form on  $S^2$ .

Claim. It all comes from the Chern-Simons-Witten theory,

$$\int_{A \in \Omega^1(\mathbb{R}^3, \mathfrak{g})} \text{tr}_R \text{hol}_\gamma(A) \exp \left[ \frac{ik}{4\pi} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \text{tr} \left( A \wedge dA + \frac{2}{3} A \wedge A \wedge A \right) \right],$$



where  $\Omega^1(\mathbb{R}^3, \mathfrak{g})$  is the space of all  $\mathfrak{g}$ -valued 1-forms on  $\mathbb{R}^3$  (really, connections),  $k$  is some large constant,  $R$  is some representation of  $\mathfrak{g}$  and  $\text{tr}_R$  is trace in  $R$ , and  $\text{hol}_\gamma(A)$  is the holonomy of  $A$  along  $\gamma$ .

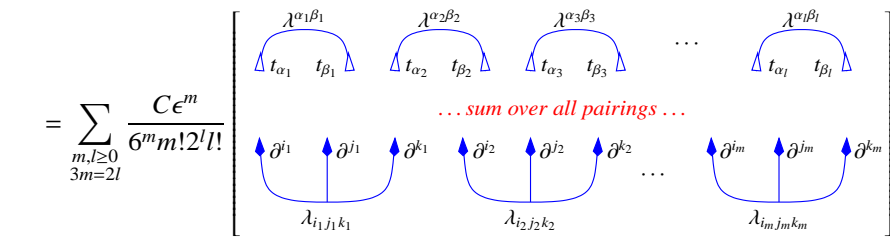
References. Witten's *Quantum field theory and the Jones polynomial*, Axelrod-Singer's *Chern-Simons perturbation theory I-II*, D. Thurston's [arXiv:math.QA/9901110](https://arxiv.org/abs/math.QA/9901110), Polyak's [arXiv:math.GT/0406251](https://arxiv.org/abs/math.GT/0406251), and my videotaped 2014 class  $\omega/\text{AKT}$ .

Gaussian Integration.  $(\lambda_{ij})$  is a symmetric positive definite matrix and  $(\lambda^{ij})$  is its inverse, and  $(\lambda_{ijk})$  are the coefficients of some cubic form. Denote by  $(x^i)_{i=1}^n$  the coordinates of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , let  $(t_i)_{i=1}^n$  be a set of "dual" variables, and let  $\partial^i$  denote  $\frac{\partial}{\partial t_i}$ . Also let  $C := \frac{(2\pi)^{n/2}}{\det(\lambda_{ij})}$ . Then

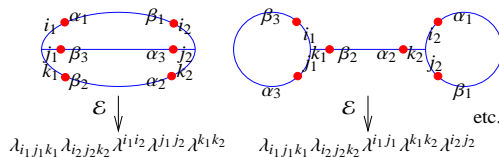
$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} e^{-\frac{1}{2} \lambda_{ij} x^i x^j + \frac{c}{6} \lambda_{ijk} x^i x^j x^k} = \sum_{m \geq 0} \frac{C^m}{6^m m!} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (\lambda_{ijk} x^i x^j x^k)^m e^{-\frac{1}{2} \lambda_{ij} x^i x^j}$$

$$= \sum_{m \geq 0} \frac{C^m}{6^m m!} (\lambda_{ijk} \partial^i \partial^j \partial^k)^m e^{\frac{1}{2} \lambda^{\alpha\beta} t_\alpha t_\beta} \Big|_{t_\alpha=0} = \sum_{\substack{m, l \geq 0 \\ 3m=2l}} \frac{C^m}{6^m m! 2^l l!} (\lambda_{ijk} \partial^i \partial^j \partial^k)^m (\lambda^{\alpha\beta} t_\alpha t_\beta)^l$$

Feynman



$$= \sum_{\substack{m, l \geq 0 \\ 3m=2l}} \frac{C^m}{6^m m! 2^l l!} \sum_{\text{m-vertex fully marked Feynman diagrams } D} \mathcal{E}(D)$$



$$= C \sum_{\text{unmarked Feynman diagrams } D} \frac{\epsilon^{m(D)} \mathcal{E}(D)}{|\text{Aut}(D)|}$$

Claim. The number of pairings that produce a given unmarked Feynman diagram  $D$  is  $\frac{6^m m! 2^l l!}{|\text{Aut}(D)|}$ .

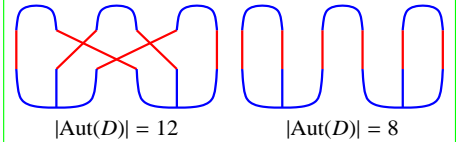
Proof of the Claim. The group  $G_{m,l} := [(S_3)^m \times S_m] \times [(S_2)^l \times S_l]$  acts on the set of pairings, the action is transitive on the set of pairings  $P$  that produce a given  $D$ , and the stabilizer of any given  $P$  is  $\text{Aut}(D)$ .  $\square$

The Fourier Transform.

$(F: V \rightarrow \mathbb{C}) \Rightarrow (\tilde{f}: V^* \rightarrow \mathbb{C})$  via  $\tilde{F}(\varphi) := \int_V f(v) e^{-i\langle \varphi, v \rangle} dv$ . Some facts:

- $\tilde{f}(0) = \int_V f(v) dv$ .
- $\frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi_i} \tilde{f} \sim \tilde{v}^i f$ .
- $(e^{Q/2}) \sim e^{Q^{-1}/2}$ , where  $Q$  is quadratic,  $Q(v) = \langle Lv, v \rangle$  for  $L: V \rightarrow V^*$ , and  $Q^{-1}(\varphi) := \langle \varphi, L^{-1}\varphi \rangle$ . (This is the key point in the proof of the Fourier inversion formula!)

Examples.



Monsters left to Slay.

- Convergence.
- Proof of invariance.
- The framing anomaly.
- Universality.
- $d^{-1}$  doesn't really exist, Faddeev-Popov, determinants, ghosts, Berezin integration.
- Assembly.



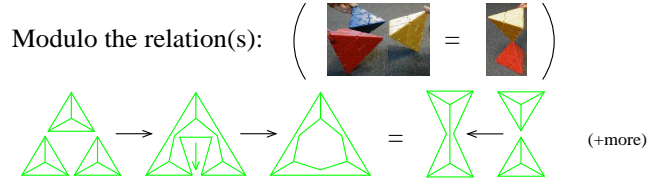
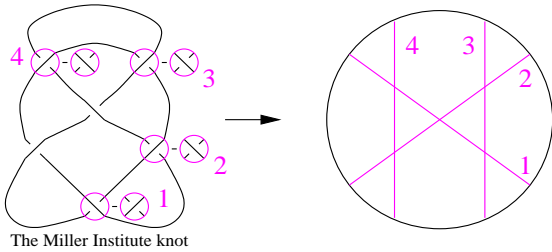
## Knotted Trivalent Graphs, Tetrahedra and Associators



$\omega := \text{http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Talks/Louvain-1506}$

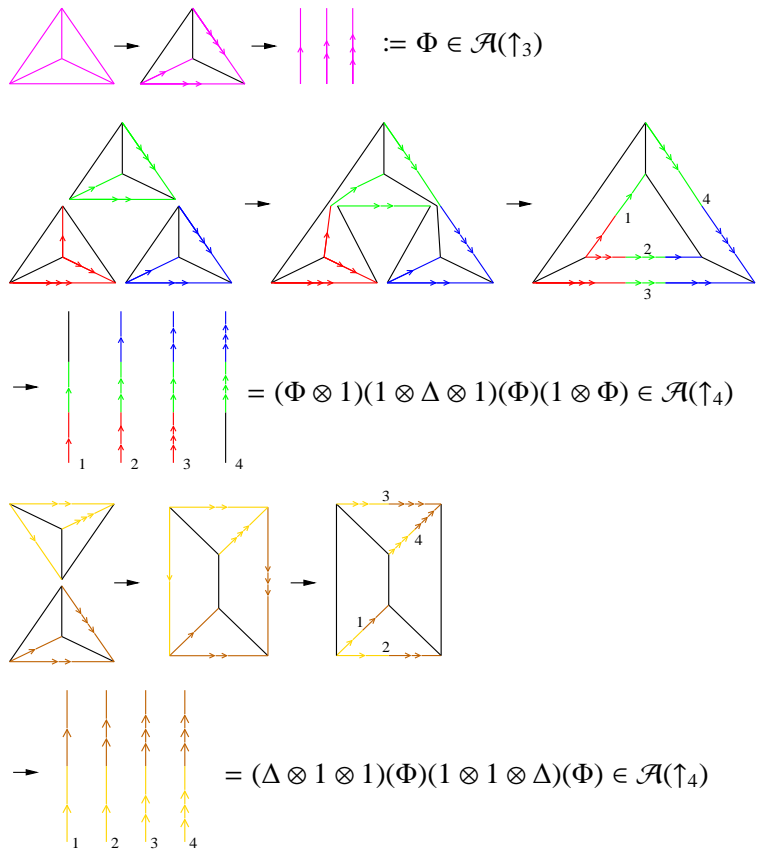
Handout, video, and links at  $\omega$

Goal:  $Z: \{\text{knots}\} \rightarrow \{\text{chord diagrams}\}/4T$  so that

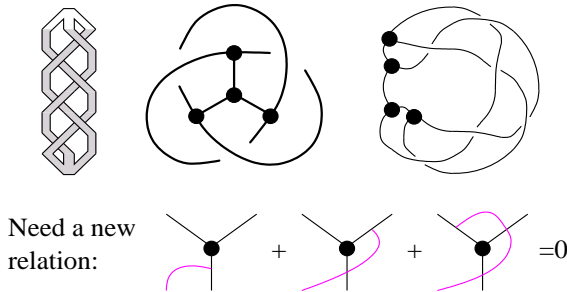


**Claim.** With  $\Phi := Z(\Delta)$ , the above relation becomes equivalent to the Drinfel'd's pentagon of the theory of quasi Hopf algebras.

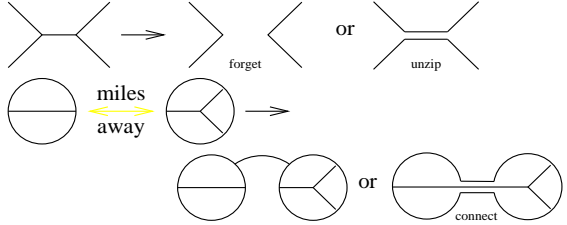
**Proof.**



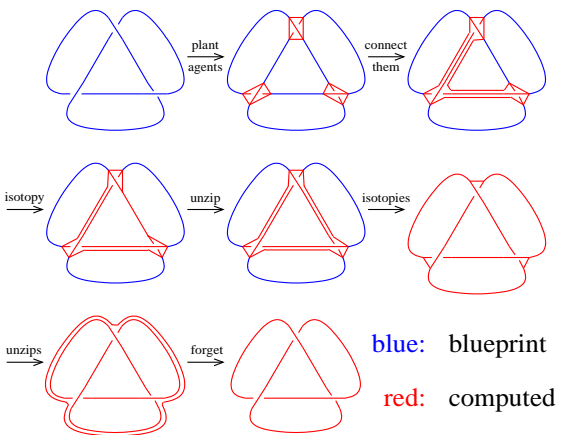
Extend to Knotted Trivalent Graphs (KTG's):



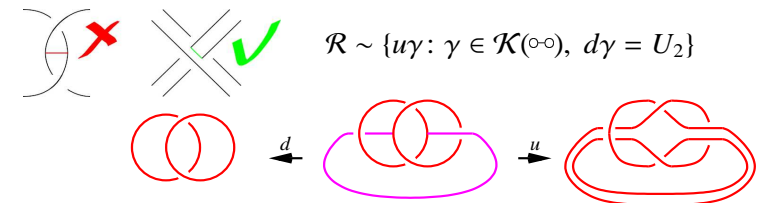
Easy, powerful operations:



Using operations, KTG is generated by ribbon twists and the tetrahedron  $\Delta$ :



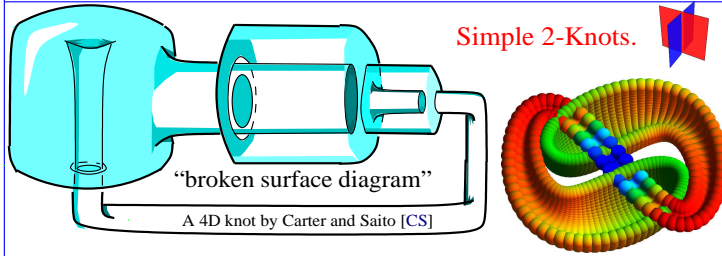
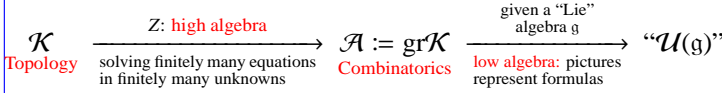
### Ribbon Knots and Algebraic Knot Theory.



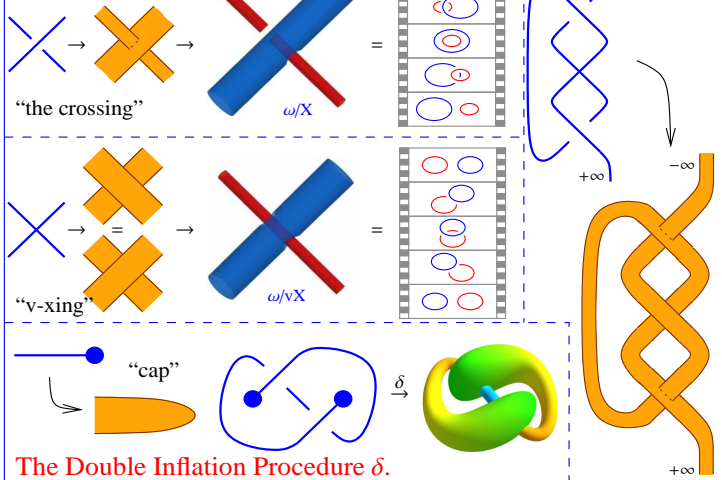


**Abstract.** We will repeat the 3D story of the previous 3 talks one dimension up, in 4D. Surprisingly, there's more room in 4D, and things get easier, at least when we restrict our attention to "w-knots", or to "simply-knotted 2-knots". But even then there are intricacies, and we try to go beyond simply-knotted, we are completely confused.

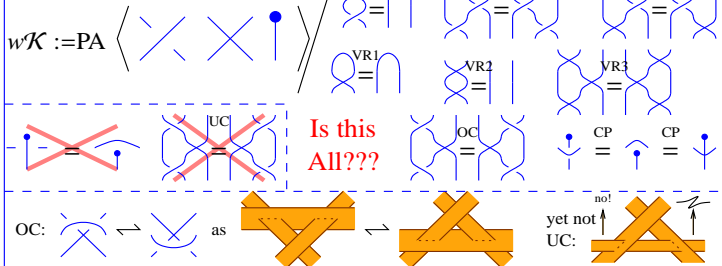
**Recall.**



**The Generators**

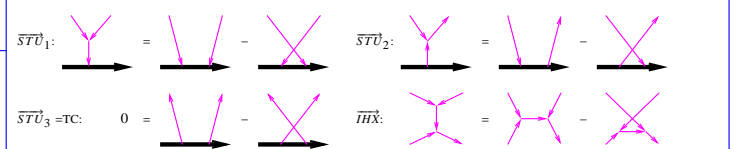
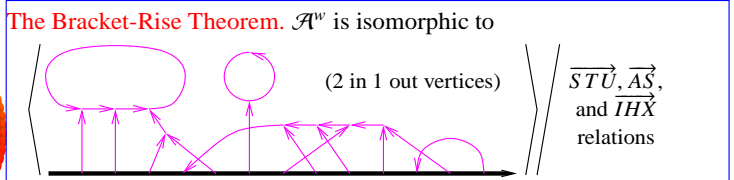
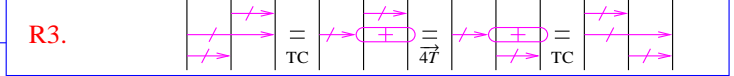
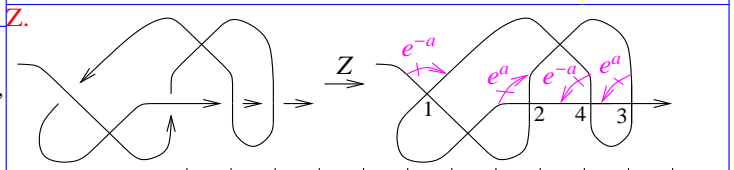
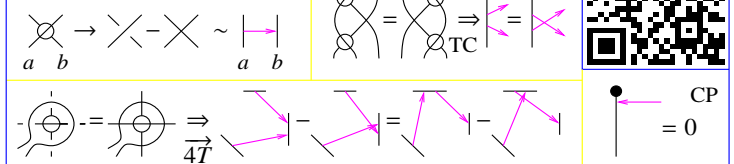


**w-Knots.**



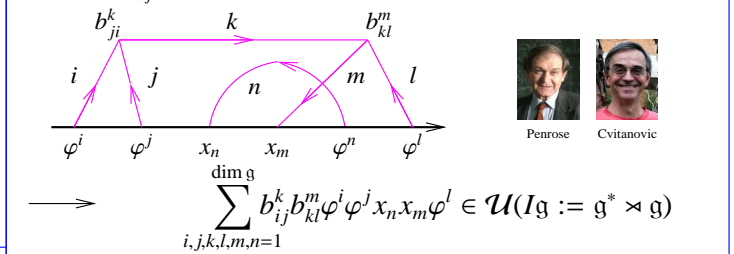
**A Big Open Problem.**  $\delta$  maps w-knots onto simple 2-knots. To what extent is it a bijection? What other relations are required? In other words, **find a simple description of simple 2-knots.** Kawachi [Ka] may already know the answer.

**The Finite Type Story.**



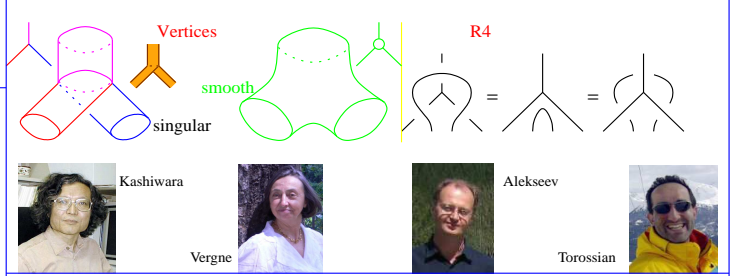
**Corollaries.** (1) Only wheels and isolated arrows persist:  
 $\mathcal{A}^w(\uparrow_n) \cong \mathcal{U}(FL(n)_{lb}^n \ltimes CW(n))$  and  $\zeta := \log Z \in FL(n)^n \times CW(n)$  has completely explicit formulas using natural FL/CW operations [BN].  
 (2) Related to f.d. Lie algebras!

**Low Algebra.** With  $(x_i)$  and  $(\varphi^j)$  dual bases of  $\mathfrak{g}$  and  $\mathfrak{g}^*$  and with  $[x_i, x_j] = \sum b_{ij}^k x_k$ , we have  $\mathcal{A}^w \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$  via

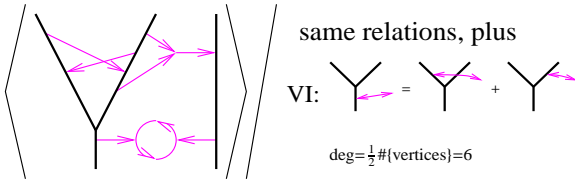


**Differential Ops.** We can also interpret  $\hat{\mathcal{U}}(I\mathfrak{g})$  as tangential differential operators on  $\text{Fun}(\mathfrak{g})$ :  $\varphi \in \mathfrak{g}^*$  becomes a multiplication operator, and  $x \in \mathfrak{g}$  becomes a tangential derivation, in the direction of the action of  $\text{ad } x$ :  $(x\varphi)(y) := \varphi([x, y])$ .

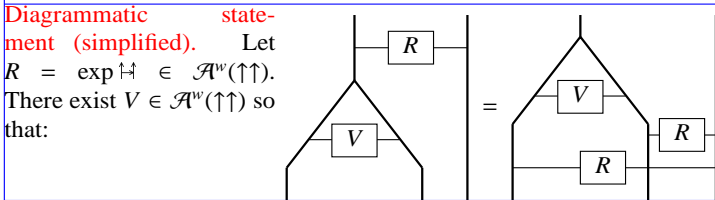
**Too easy so far!** Yet once you add "foam vertices", it gets related to the Kashiwara-Vergne problem [KV] as told by Alekseev-Torossian [AT]:



w-Jacobi diagrams and  $\mathcal{A}$ .  $\mathcal{A}^w(Y \uparrow) \cong \mathcal{A}^w(\uparrow \uparrow \uparrow)$  is



**Knot-Theoretic statement (simplified).** There exists a homomorphic expansion  $Z$  for trivalent w-tangles. In particular,  $Z$  should respect R4.



**Algebraic statement (simplified).** With  $r \in \mathfrak{g}^* \otimes \mathfrak{g}$  the identity element and with  $R = e^r \in \hat{\mathcal{U}}(\mathfrak{g}) \otimes \hat{\mathcal{U}}(\mathfrak{g})$  there exist  $V \in \hat{\mathcal{U}}(\mathfrak{g})^{\otimes 2}$  so that  $V(\Delta \otimes 1)(R) = R^{13}R^{23}V$  in  $\hat{\mathcal{U}}(\mathfrak{g})^{\otimes 2} \otimes \hat{\mathcal{U}}(\mathfrak{g})$

**Unitary statement (simplified).** There exists a unitary tangential differential operator  $V$  defined on  $\text{Fun}(\mathfrak{g}_x \times \mathfrak{g}_y)$  so that  $V e^{x+y} = e^x e^y V$  (allowing  $\hat{\mathcal{U}}(\mathfrak{g})$ -valued functions)

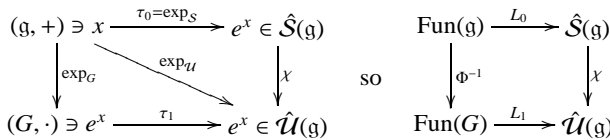
**Group-Algebra statement (simplified).** For every  $\phi, \psi \in \text{Fun}(\mathfrak{g})^G$  (with small support), the following holds in  $\hat{\mathcal{U}}(\mathfrak{g})$ :

$$\iint_{\mathfrak{g} \times \mathfrak{g}} \phi(x)\psi(y)e^{x+y} = \iint_{\mathfrak{g} \times \mathfrak{g}} \phi(x)\psi(y)e^x e^y \quad (\text{shhh, this is Duflo})$$

**Unitary  $\implies$  Group-Algebra.**  $\iint e^{x+y} \phi(x)\psi(y) = \langle 1, e^{x+y} \phi(x)\psi(y) \rangle = \langle V1, V e^{x+y} \phi(x)\psi(y) \rangle = \langle 1, e^x e^y V \phi(x)\psi(y) \rangle = \langle 1, e^x e^y \phi(x)\psi(y) \rangle = \iint e^x e^y \phi(x)\psi(y)$ .

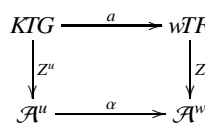
**Convolutions statement (Kashiwara-Vergne, simplified).** Convolutions of invariant functions on a Lie group agree with convolutions of invariant functions on its Lie algebra. More accurately, let  $G$  be a finite dimensional Lie group and let  $\mathfrak{g}$  be its Lie algebra, and let  $\Phi : \text{Fun}(G) \rightarrow \text{Fun}(\mathfrak{g})$  be given by  $\Phi(f)(x) := f(\exp x)$ . Then if  $f, g \in \text{Fun}(G)$  are Ad-invariant and supported near the identity, then  $\Phi(f) \star \Phi(g) = \Phi(f \star g)$ .

**Convolutions and Group Algebras** (ignoring all Jacobians). If  $G$  is finite,  $A$  is an algebra,  $\tau : G \rightarrow A$  is multiplicative then  $(\text{Fun}(G), \star) \rightarrow (A, \cdot)$  via  $L : f \mapsto \sum f(a)\tau(a)$ . For Lie  $(G, \mathfrak{g})$ ,

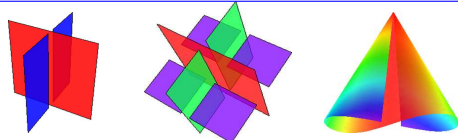


$$\star \text{ in } G : \iint \psi_1(x)\psi_2(y)e^x e^y \quad \star \text{ in } \mathfrak{g} : \iint \psi_1(x)\psi_2(y)e^{x+y}$$

$u \leftrightarrow w$  The diagram on the right explains the relationship between associators and solutions of the Kashiwara-Vergne problem.



The Full  
2-Knot Story



**Question.** Does it all extend to arbitrary 2-knots (not necessarily “simple”)? To arbitrary codimension-2 knots?

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

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

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

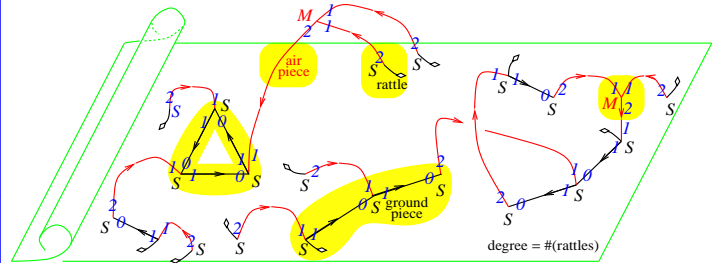
$$O(A, B, \kappa) := \int \mathcal{D}\beta \mathcal{D}\alpha \exp\left(\frac{i}{\hbar} \int_S \langle \beta, d_{\kappa^* A} \alpha + \kappa^* B \rangle\right).$$

**The BF Feynman Rules.** For an edge  $e$ , let  $\Phi_e$  be its direction, in  $S^3$  or  $S^1$ . Let  $\omega_3$  and  $\omega_1$  be volume forms on  $S^3$  and  $S^1$ . Then

$$Z_{BF} = \sum_{\text{diagrams } D} \frac{[D]}{|\text{Aut}(D)|} \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \dots \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^4} \dots \int_{\mathbb{R}^4} \prod_{\text{red } e \in D} \Phi_e^* \omega_3 \prod_{\text{black } e \in D} \Phi_e^* \omega_1$$

(modulo some IHX-like relations).

See also [Wa]



**Issues.** • Signs don’t quite work out, and BF seems to reproduce only “half” of the wheels invariant on simple 2-knots.

- There are many more configuration space integrals than BF Feynman diagrams and than just trees and wheels.
- I don’t know how to define / analyze “finite type” for general 2-knots.
- I don’t know how to reduce  $Z_{BF}$  to combinatorics / algebra.

**References.**

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 [BND2] D. Bar-Natan and Z. Dancso, *Finite Type Invariants of W-Knotted Objects II: Tangles and the Kashiwara-Vergne Problem*,  $\omega/\text{WKO2}$ , arXiv:1405.1955.  
 [CS] J. S. Carter and M. Saito, *Knotted surfaces and their diagrams*, *Math. Surv. and Mono.* **55**, Amer. Math. Soc., 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.  
 [KV] M. Kashiwara and M. Vergne, *The Campbell-Hausdorff Formula and Invariant Hyperfunctions*, *Invent. Math.* **47** (1978) 249–272.  
 [Ka] A. Kawachi, *A Chord Diagram of a Ribbon Surface-Link*, <http://www.sci.osaka-cu.ac.jp/~kawachi/>.  
 [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)

[www.katlas.org](http://www.katlas.org)



**Abstract.** The commutator of two elements  $x$  and  $y$  in a group  $G$  is  $xyx^{-1}y^{-1}$ . That is,  $x$  followed by  $y$  followed by the inverse of  $x$  followed by the inverse of  $y$ . In my talk I will tell you how commutators are related to the following four riddles:

1. Can you send a secure message to a person you have never communicated with before (neither privately nor publicly), using a messenger you do not trust?
2. Can you hang a picture on a string on the wall using  $n$  nails, so that if you remove any one of them, the picture will fall?
3. Can you draw an  $n$ -component link (a knot made of  $n$  non-intersecting circles) so that if you remove any one of those  $n$  components, the remaining  $(n - 1)$  will fall apart?
4. Can you solve the quintic in radicals? Is there a formula for the zeros of a degree 5 polynomial in terms of its coefficients, using only the operations on a scientific calculator?

**Definition.** The commutator of two elements  $x$  and  $y$  in a group  $G$  is  $[x, y] := xyx^{-1}y^{-1}$ .

**Example 1.** In  $S_3$ ,  $[(12), (23)] = (12)(23)(12)^{-1}(23)^{-1} = (123)$  and in general in  $S_{\geq 3}$ ,

$$[(ij), (jk)] = (ijk).$$

**Example 2.** In  $S_{\geq 4}$ ,

$$[(ijk), (jkl)] = (ijk)(jkl)(ijk)^{-1}(jkl)^{-1} = (il)(jk).$$

**Example 3.** In  $S_{\geq 5}$ ,

$$[(ijk), (klm)] = (ijk)(klm)(ijk)^{-1}(klm)^{-1} = (jkm).$$

**Example 4.** So, in fact, in  $S_5$ ,  $(123) = [(412), (253)] = [[(341), (152)], [(125), (543)]] = [[[(234), (451)], [(315), (542)]], [[(312), (245)], [(154), (423)]]] = [ [[[(123), (354)], [(245), (531)]]], [[(231), (145)], [(154), (432)]]], [[[(431), (152)], [(124), (435)]], [[(215), (534)], [(142), (253)]]] ].$

**Solving the Quadratic,**  $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ :  $\delta = \sqrt{\Delta}$ ;  $\Delta = b^2 - 4ac$ ;  $r = \frac{\delta - b}{2a}$ .

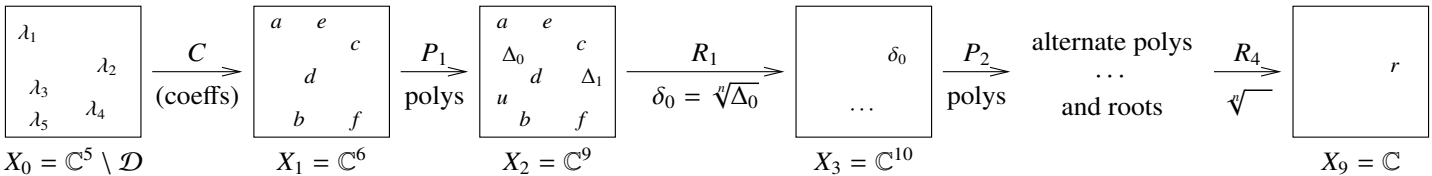
**Solving the Cubic,**  $ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + d = 0$ :  $\Delta = 27a^2d^2 - 18abcd + 4ac^3 + 4b^3d - b^2c^2$ ;  $\delta = \sqrt{\Delta}$ ;  $\Gamma = 27a^2d - 9abc + 3\sqrt{3}a\delta + 2b^3$ ;  $\gamma = \sqrt[3]{\frac{\Gamma}{2}}$ ;  $r = -\frac{b^2 - 3ac + b + \gamma}{3a}$ .

**Solving the Quartic,**  $ax^4 + bx^3 + cx^2 + dx + e = 0$ :  $\Delta_0 = 12ae - 3bd + c^2$ ;  $\Delta_1 = -72ace + 27ad^2 + 27b^2e - 9bcd + 2c^3$ ;  $\Delta_2 = \frac{1}{27}(\Delta_1^2 - 4\Delta_0^3)$ ;  $u = \frac{8ac - 3b^2}{8a^2}$ ;  $v = \frac{8a^2d - 4abc + b^3}{8a^3}$ ;  $\delta_2 = \sqrt{\Delta_2}$ ;  $Q = \frac{1}{2}(3\sqrt{3}\delta_2 + \Delta_1)$ ;  $q = \sqrt[3]{Q}$ ;  $S = \frac{\Delta_0 + q}{12a} - \frac{u}{6}$ ;  $s = \sqrt{S}$ ;  $\Gamma = -\frac{v}{s} - 4S - 2u$ ;  $\gamma = \sqrt{\Gamma}$ ;  $r = -\frac{b}{4a} + \frac{\gamma}{2} + s$ .

**Theorem.** There is no general formula, using only the basic arithmetic operations and taking roots, for the solution of the quintic equation  $ax^5 + bx^4 + cx^3 + dx^2 + ex + f = 0$ .

**Key Point.** The “persistent root” of a closed path (path lift, in topological language) may not be closed, yet the persistent root of a commutators of closed paths is always closed.

**Proof.** Suppose there was a formula, and consider the corresponding “composition of machines” picture:



Now if  $\gamma_1^{(1)}, \gamma_2^{(1)}, \dots, \gamma_{16}^{(1)}$ , are paths in  $X_0$  that induce permutations of the roots and we set  $\gamma_1^{(2)} := [\gamma_1^{(1)}, \gamma_2^{(1)}]$ ,  $\gamma_2^{(2)} := [\gamma_3^{(1)}, \gamma_4^{(1)}]$ ,  $\dots$ ,  $\gamma_8^{(2)} := [\gamma_{15}^{(1)}, \gamma_{16}^{(1)}]$ ,  $\gamma_1^{(3)} := [\gamma_1^{(2)}, \gamma_2^{(2)}]$ ,  $\dots$ ,  $\gamma_4^{(3)} := [\gamma_7^{(2)}, \gamma_8^{(2)}]$ ,  $\gamma_1^{(4)} := [\gamma_1^{(3)}, \gamma_2^{(3)}]$ ,  $\gamma_2^{(4)} := [\gamma_3^{(3)}, \gamma_4^{(3)}]$ , and finally  $\gamma^{(5)} := [\gamma_1^{(4)}, \gamma_2^{(4)}]$  (all of those, commutators of “long paths”; I don’t know the word “homotopy”), then  $\gamma^{(5)} // C // P_1 // R_1 // \dots // R_4$  is a closed path. Indeed,

- In  $X_0$ , none of the paths is necessarily closed.
- After  $C$ , all of the paths are closed.
- After  $P_1$ , all of the paths are still closed.
- After  $R_1$ , the  $\gamma^{(1)}$ ’s may open up, but the  $\gamma^{(2)}$ ’s remain closed.
- ...

• At the end, after  $R_4$ ,  $\gamma^{(4)}$ ’s may open up, but  $\gamma^{(5)}$  remains closed.

But if the paths are chosen as in Example 4,  $\gamma^{(5)} // C // P_1 // R_1 // \dots // R_4$  is not a closed path. □



V.I. Arnold

**References.** V.I. Arnold, 1960s, hard to locate.

V.B. Alekseev, *Abel’s Theorem in Problems and Solutions, Based on the Lecture of Professor V.I. Arnold*, Kluwer 2004.

A. Khovanskii, *Topological Galois Theory, Solvability and Unsolvability of Equations in Finite Terms*, Springer 2014.

B. Katz, *Short Proof of Abel’s Theorem that 5th Degree Polynomial Equations Cannot be Solved*, YouTube video,

<http://youtu.be/RhpVSV6iCko>.





## When does a group have a Taylor expansion?



**Abstract.** It is insufficiently well known that the good old Taylor expansion has a completely algebraic characterization, which generalizes to arbitrary groups (and even far beyond). Thus one may ask: Does the braid group have a Taylor expansion? (Yes, using iterated integrals and/or associators). Do braids on a torus (“elliptic braids”) have Taylor expansions? (Yes, using more sophisticated iterated integrals / associators). Do virtual braids have Taylor expansions? (No, yet for nearby objects the deep answer is Probably Yes). Do groups of flying rings (braid groups one dimension up) have Taylor expansions? (Yes, easily, yet the link to TQFT is yet to be fully explored).



Brook Taylor

**Disclaimer.** I’m asked to talk in a meeting on “iterated integrals”, and that’s my best. Many of you may think it all trivial. Sorry.

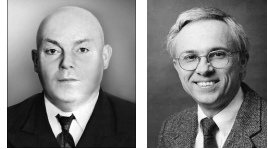
**Expansions for Groups.** Let  $G$  be a group,  $\mathcal{K} = \mathbb{Q}G = \{\sum a_i g_i : a_i \in \mathbb{Q}, g_i \in G\}$  its group-ring,  $\mathcal{I} = \{\sum a_i g_i : \sum a_i = 0\}$  its augmentation ideal. Let

$$\mathcal{A} = \text{gr } \mathcal{K} := \bigoplus_{m \geq 0} \mathcal{I}^m / \mathcal{I}^{m+1}.$$

Note that  $\mathcal{A}$  inherits a product from  $G$ .

**Definition.** A linear  $Z: \mathcal{K} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  is an “expansion” if for any  $\gamma \in \mathcal{I}^m$ ,  $Z(\gamma) = (0, \dots, 0, \gamma / \mathcal{I}^{m+1}, *, \dots)$ , a “multiplicative expansion” if in addition it preserves the product, and a “Taylor expansion” if it also preserves the co-product, induced from the diagonal map  $G \rightarrow G \times G$ .

P.S.  $(\mathcal{K}/\mathcal{I}^{m+1})^*$  is Vassiliev / finite-type / polynomial invariants.

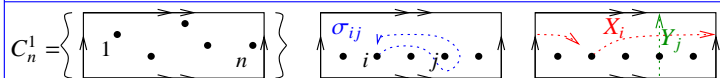


Malcev

Quillen

**Example.** Let  $\mathcal{K} = C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$  and  $\mathcal{I} = \{f : f(0) = 0\}$ . Then  $\mathcal{I}^m = \{f : f \text{ vanishes like } |x|^m\}$  so  $\mathcal{I}^m / \mathcal{I}^{m+1}$  degree  $m$  homogeneous polynomials and  $\mathcal{A} = \{\text{power series}\}$ . The Taylor series is the unique Taylor expansion!

**Comment.** Unlike lower central series constructions, this generalizes effortlessly to arbitrary algebraic structures.



**Elliptic Braids.**  $PB_n^1 := \pi_1(C_n^1)$  is generated by  $\sigma_{ij}$ ,  $X_i$ ,  $Y_j$ , with  $PB_n$  relations and  $(X_i, X_j) = 1 = (Y_i, Y_j)$ ,  $(X_i, Y_j) = \sigma_{ij}^{-1}$ ,  $(X_i X_j, \sigma_{ij}) = 1 = (Y_i Y_j, \sigma_{ij})$ , and  $\square X_i$  and  $\square Y_j$  are central. [Bez] implies  $\mathcal{A}(PB_n^1) = \langle x_i, y_j \rangle / ([x_i, x_j] = [y_i, y_j] = [x_i + x_j, [x_i, y_j]] = [y_i + y_j, [x_i, y_j]] = [x_i, \sum y_j] = [y_j, \sum x_i] = 0, [x_i, y_j] = [x_j, y_i])$ , and [CEE] construct a Taylor expansion using sophisticated iterated integrals. [En2] relates this to Elliptic Associators.

**Virtual Braids.**  $PvB_n$  is given by the “braids for dummies” presentation:

$$\langle \sigma_{ij} \mid \sigma_{ij} \sigma_{ik} \sigma_{jk} = \sigma_{jk} \sigma_{ik} \sigma_{ij}, \sigma_{ij} \sigma_{kl} = \sigma_{kl} \sigma_{ij} \rangle$$

(every quantum invariant extends to  $PvB_n$ !). By [Lee],  $\mathcal{A}(PvB_n)$  is

$$\langle a_{ij} \mid [a_{ij}, a_{ik}] + [a_{ij}, a_{jk}] + [a_{ik}, a_{jk}] = 0 = [a_{ij}, a_{kl}] \rangle$$

**Theorem [Lee].** While quadratic,  $PvB_n$  does not have a Taylor expansion.  
**Comment.** By the tough theory of quantization of solutions of the classical Young-Baxter equation [EK, En1],  $PvT_n$  does have a Taylor expansion. But  $PvT_n$  is not a group.



Peter Lee

**Pure Braids.** Take  $G = PB_n = \pi_1(C_n = \mathbb{C}^n \setminus \text{diags})$ . It is generated by the love-behind-the-bars braids  $\sigma_{ij}$ , modulo “Reidemeister moves”.  $\mathcal{I}$  is generated by

$\{\sigma_{ij} - 1\}$  and  $\mathcal{A}$  by  $\{t_{ij}\}$ , the classes of the  $\sigma_{ij} - 1$  in  $\mathcal{A}_1 = \mathcal{I} / \mathcal{I}^2$ . Reidemeister becomes

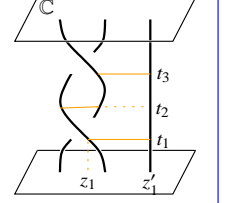
$$[t_{ij} + t_{ik}, t_{jk}] = 0 \text{ and } [t_{ij}, t_{kl}] = 0.$$

**Theorem.** For  $\gamma: [0, 1] \rightarrow C_n$ , with  $z_i$  its  $i$ th coordinate, the iterated integral formula on the right defines a Taylor expansion for  $PB_n$ .

$$Z(\gamma) = \sum_{m \geq 0} \prod_{\alpha=1}^m \frac{t_{i_\alpha j_\alpha}}{2\pi i} d \log(z_{i_\alpha} - z_{j_\alpha}),$$

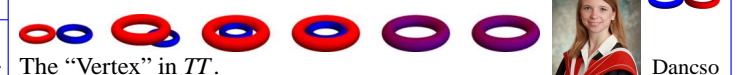
$0 < t_1 < \dots < t_m < 1$   
 $1 \leq i_1 < j_1, i_2 < j_2, \dots, i_m < j_m \leq n$

**Comments.** • I don’t know a combinatorial/algebraic proof that  $PB_n$  has a Taylor expansion. • Generic “partial expansion” do not extend! • This is the seed for the Drinfel’d theory of associators! • Confession: I don’t know a clean derivation of a presentation of  $PB_n$ .



**Flying Rings.**  $PvB_n = PvB_n / (\sigma_{ij} \sigma_{ik} = \sigma_{ik} \sigma_{ij})$  is  $\pi_1$  (flying rings in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ).  $\mathcal{A}(PvB_n) = \mathcal{A}(PB_n) / [a_{ij}, a_{ik}] = 0$ , and  $Z$  is as easy as it gets:  $Z(\sigma_{ij}) = e^{a_{ij}}$  [BP, BND]. Indeed,  $Z(\sigma_{ij} \sigma_{ik} \sigma_{jk}) = e^{a_{ij}} e^{a_{ik}} e^{a_{jk}} = e^{a_{ij} + a_{ik}} e^{a_{jk}} = e^{a_{ij} + a_{ik} + a_{jk}} = Z(\sigma_{jk} \sigma_{ik} \sigma_{ij})$ .

**Comments.** • Extends to  $PvT$  and generalizes the Alexander polynomial, and even to  $PvIT$  and interprets the Kashiwara-Vergne problem [BND]. • I don’t know an iterated-integral derivation, or any TQFT derivation, though BF theory probably comes close [CR].



The “Vertex” in  $IT$ . Dancso

**References.** Paper in Progress:  $\omega\epsilon\beta$ /ExQu [BND] D. Bar-Natan and Z. Dancso, *Finite Type Invariants of W-Knotted Objects I: Braids, Knots and the Alexander Polynomial*,  $\omega\epsilon\beta$ /WKO1, arXiv:1405.1956; and II: *Tangles and the Kashiwara-Vergne Problem*,  $\omega\epsilon\beta$ /WKO2, arXiv:1405.1955.

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[En2] B. Enriquez, *Elliptic Associators*, Selecta Mathematica **20** (2014) 491–584, arXiv:1003.1012.

[EK] P. Etingof and D. Kazhdan, *Quantization of Lie Bialgebras, I*, Selecta Mathematica **2** (1996) 1–41, arXiv:q-alg/9506005.

[Lee] P. Lee, *The Pure Virtual Braid Group Is Quadratic*, Selecta Mathematica **19-2** (2013) 461–508, arXiv:1110.2356.



**Abstract.** I will describe a **computable, non-commutative** invariant of tangles with values in wheels, almost generalize it to some balloons, and then tell you why I care. Spoilers: tangles are you know what, wheels are linear combinations of cyclic words in some alphabet, balloons are 2-knots, and one reason I care is because quantum field theory predicts more than I can actually get (but also less).

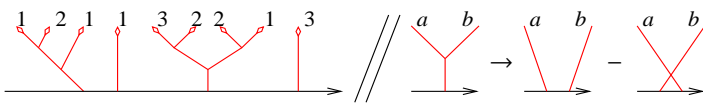
**Why I like “non-commutative”?** With  $FA(x_i)$  the free associative non-commutative algebra,

$$\dim \mathbb{Q}[x, y]_d \sim d \ll 2^d \sim \dim FA(x, y)_d.$$

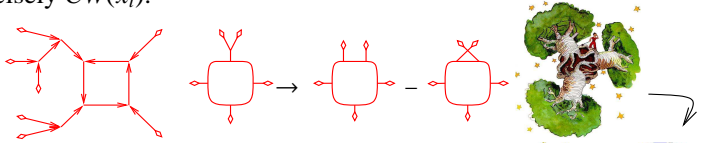
**Why I like “computable”?**

- Because I’m weird.
- Note that  $\pi_1$  isn’t computable.

**Preliminaries from Algebra.**  $FL(x_i)$  denotes the free Lie algebra in  $(x_i)$ ;  $FL(x_i) = (\text{binary trees with AS vertices and coloured leaves}) / (\text{IHX relations})$ . There an obvious map  $FA(FL(x_i)) \rightarrow FA(x_i)$  defined by  $[a, b] \rightarrow ab - ba$ , which in itself, is IHX.

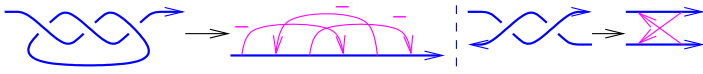


$CW(x_i)$  denotes the vector space of cyclic words in  $(x_i)$ :  $CW(x_i) = FA(x_i) / (x_i w = w x_i)$ . There an obvious map  $CW(FL(x_i)) \rightarrow CW(x_i)$ . In fact, connected uni-trivalent 2-in-1-out graphs with univalents with colours in  $\{1, \dots, n\}$ , modulo AS and IHX, is precisely  $CW(x_i)$ :

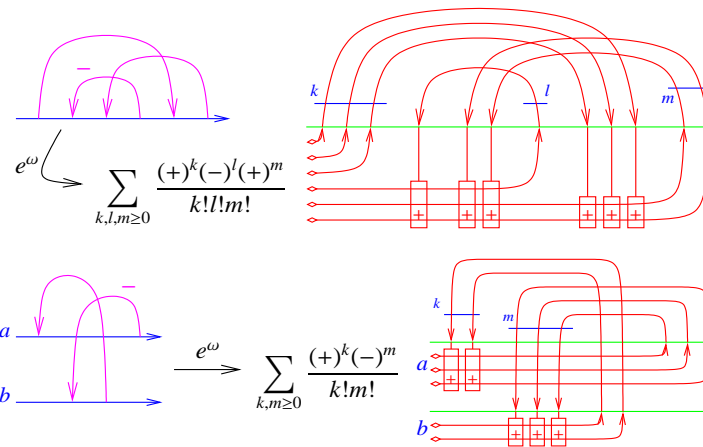


**Most important.**  $e^x = \sum \frac{x^d}{d!}$  and  $e^{x+y} = e^x e^y$ .

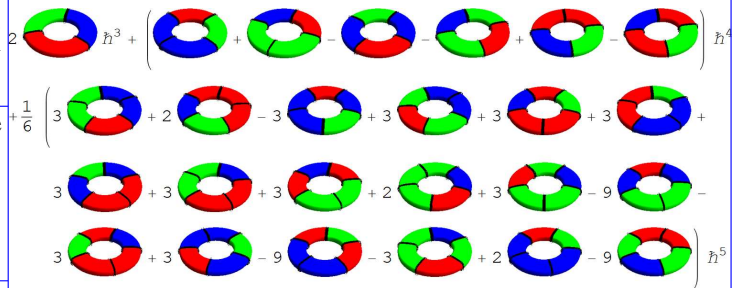
**Preliminaries from Knot Theory.**



**Theorem.**  $\omega$ , the connected part of the procedure below, is an invariant of  $S$ -component tangles with values in  $CW(S)$ :



$\omega$  is practically computable! For the Borromean tangle, to degree 5, the result is: (see [BN])

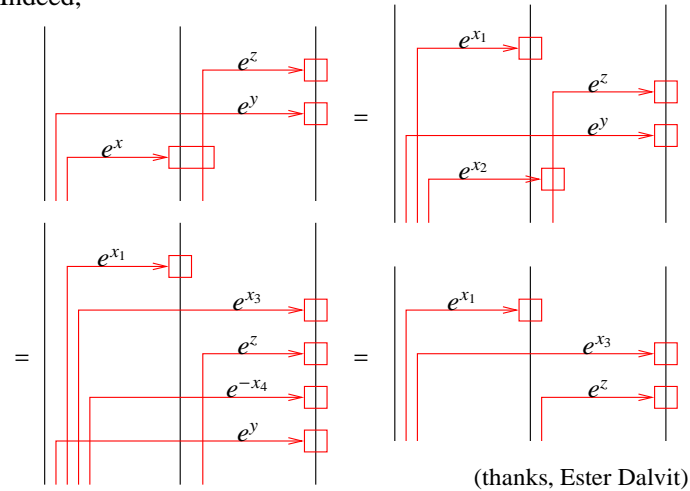


**Proof of Invariance.**

Need to show:

$$\omega \left( \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \uparrow \uparrow \\ \leftarrow \rightarrow \end{array} \right) = \omega \left( \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \uparrow \uparrow \\ \rightarrow \leftarrow \end{array} \right)$$

Indeed,

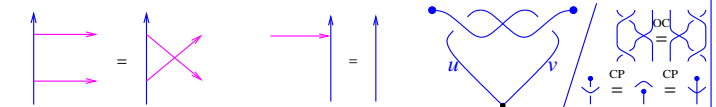


(thanks, Ester Dalvit)

- $\omega$  is really the second part of a (trees,wheels)-valued **Further Facts** invariant  $\zeta = (\lambda, \omega)$ . The tree part  $\lambda$  is just a repackaging of the Milnor  $\mu$ -invariants.
- On u-tangles,  $\zeta$  is equivalent to the trees&wheels part of the Kontsevich integral, except it is computable and is defined with no need for a choice of parenthesization.
- On long/round u-knots,  $\omega$  is equivalent to the Alexander polynomial.
- The multivariable Alexander polynomial (and Levine’s factorization thereof [Le]) is contained in the Abelianization of  $\zeta$  [BNS].
- $\omega$  vanishes on braids.
- Related to / extends Farber’s [Fa]?
- Should be summed and categorified.
- Extends to v and descends to w: meaning,  $\zeta$  satisfies  $\omega$  also satisfies so  $\omega$ ’s “true domain” is



Does  $\omega$  extend to balloons?



- Agrees with BN-Dancso [BND1, BND2] and with [BN].
- $\zeta, \omega$  are universal finite type invariants.
- Using  $\mathfrak{XK}: v\mathcal{K}_n \rightarrow w\mathcal{K}_{n+1}$ , defines a strong invariant of v-tangles / long v-knots. ( $\mathfrak{XK}$  in  $\text{\LaTeX}$ :  $\omega \in \beta / zhe$ )

**Simple 2-Knots.**

“broken surface diagram”  
 A 4D knot by Carter and Saito [CS]

$\omega\epsilon\beta/F$

Dalvit  
 $\omega\epsilon\beta/Dal$

**Question.** Does it all extend to arbitrary 2-knots (not necessarily “simple”)? To arbitrary codimension-2 knots?

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

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

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

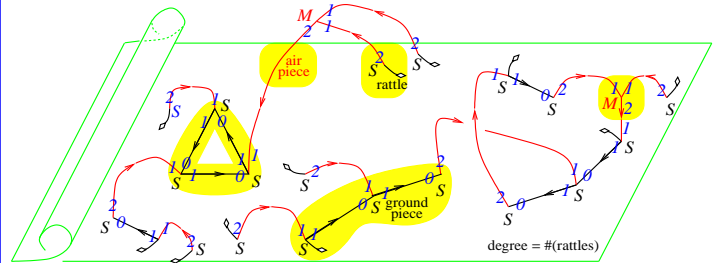
$$O(A, B, \kappa) := \int \mathcal{D}\beta \mathcal{D}\alpha \exp\left(\frac{i}{\hbar} \int_S \langle \beta, d_{\kappa^* A} \alpha + \kappa^* B \rangle\right).$$

**The BF Feynman Rules.** For an edge  $e,$  let  $\Phi_e$  be its direction, in  $S^3$  or  $S^1.$  Let  $\omega_3$  and  $\omega_1$  be volume forms on  $S^3$  and  $S^1.$  Then

$$Z_{BF} = \sum_{\text{diagrams } D} \frac{|D|}{|\text{Aut}(D)|} \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \dots \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^4} \dots \int_{\mathbb{R}^4} \prod_{\text{red } e \in D} \Phi_e^* \omega_3 \prod_{\text{black } e \in D} \Phi_e^* \omega_1$$

(modulo some IHX-like relations).

See also [Wa]



**Issues.** • Signs don't quite work out, and BF seems to reproduce only “half” of the wheels invariant on simple 2-knots.

- There are many more configuration space integrals than BF Feynman diagrams and than just trees and wheels.
- I don't know how to define / analyze “finite type” for general 2-knots.
- I don't know how to reduce  $Z_{BF}$  to combinatorics / algebra.

**References.**

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[BND1] D. Bar-Natan and Z. Dancso, *Finite Type Invariants of W-Knotted Objects I: W-Knots and the Alexander Polynomial,*  $\omega\epsilon\beta/WKO1,$  arXiv:1405.1956.

[BND2] D. Bar-Natan and Z. Dancso, *Finite Type Invariants of W-Knotted Objects II: Tangles and the Kashiwara-Vergne Problem,*  $\omega\epsilon\beta/WKO2,$  arXiv:1405.1955.

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**The Generators**

“the crossing”  $\omega\epsilon\beta/X$

“v-xing”  $\omega\epsilon\beta/vX$

“cap”  $\delta$

**The Double Inflation Procedure  $\delta.$**

**w-Knots.**

$w\mathcal{K} := \text{PA} \langle \dots \rangle$

Is this All???

OC:  $\dots$  as  $\dots$  yet not UC:  $\dots$

**A Big Open Problem.**  $\delta$  maps w-knots onto simple 2-knots. To what extent is it a bijection? What other relations are required? In other words, **find a simple description of simple 2-knots.**

**The Full 2-Knot Story**

**Rewrites of IHX.**

**Riddles,** in case you are bored.

- Can you find uncountably many distinct subsets  $\{A_\alpha\}$  of  $\mathbb{Z}$  such that whenever  $\alpha \neq \beta$  either  $A_\alpha \subset A_\beta$  or  $A_\beta \subset A_\alpha$ ?
- Can you find uncountably many distinct subsets  $\{B_\alpha\}$  of  $\mathbb{Z}$  such that whenever  $\alpha \neq \beta$  the intersection  $B_\alpha \cap B_\beta$  is finite?

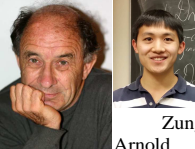
Even better,

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

[www.katlas.org](http://www.katlas.org)



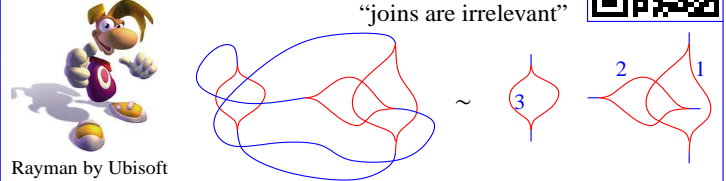
**Abstract.** I will describe my former student's Jonathan Zung work on finite type invariants of "doodles", plane curves modulo the second Reidemeister move but not modulo the third. We use a definition of "finite type" different from Arnold's and more along the lines of Goussarov's "Interdependent Modifications", and come to a conjectural combinatorial description of the set of all such invariants. We then describe how to construct many such invariants (though perhaps not all) using a certain class of 2-dimensional "configuration space integrals".



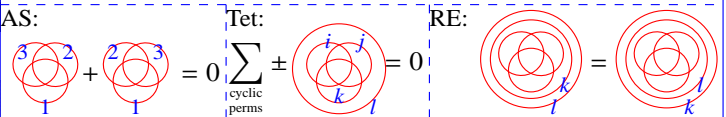
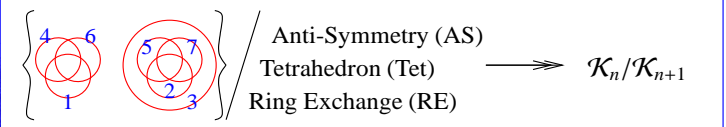
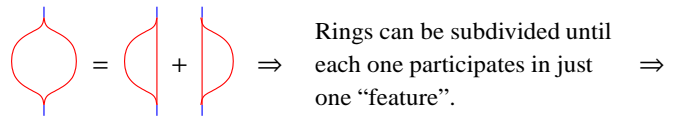
## Chord Diagrams and an Upper Bound on $\mathcal{K}_n/\mathcal{K}_{n+1}$

The Rayman Principle. In  $\mathcal{K}_n/\mathcal{K}_{n+1}$ ,

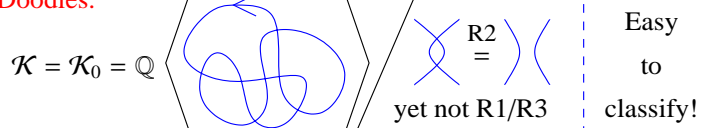
"joins are irrelevant"



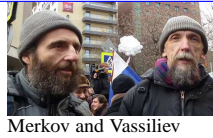
## The Subdivision Relations. In $\mathcal{K}_n/\mathcal{K}_{n+1}$ ,



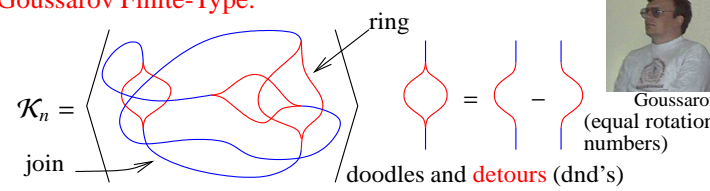
## Doodles.



**Prior Art.** Arnold [Ar] first studied doodles within his study of plane curves and the "strangeness"  $St$  invariant. Vassiliev [Va1, Va2] defined finite type invariants in a different way, and Merkov [Me] proved that they separate doodles.



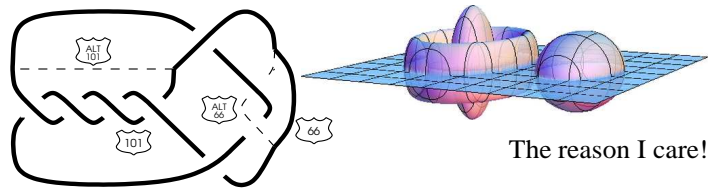
## Goussarov Finite-Type.



**Def.**  $V$  is of type  $n$  if it vanishes on  $\mathcal{K}_{n+1}$ .  $(\mathcal{K}_0/\mathcal{K}_{n+1})^* \leftrightarrow \mathcal{K}_n/\mathcal{K}_{n+1}$

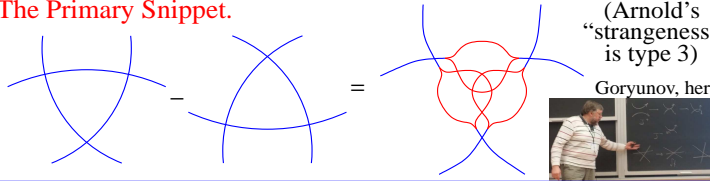
## Knots in 3D.

## 2-Knots in 4D.

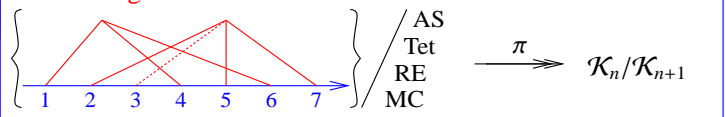


**Goals.** • Describe  $\mathcal{A}_n := \mathcal{K}_n/\mathcal{K}_{n+1}$  using diagrams/relations. • Get many or all finite type invariants of doodles using configurations space integrals. • Do these come from a TQFT? • See if  $\mathcal{A}_n$  has a "Lie theoretic" (tensors/relations) meaning. • See if/how Arnold's  $St$  and the Merkov invariants integrate in.

## The Primary Snippet.



## "Chord Diagrams".



## "Multi-Commutator" (MC) Relations.

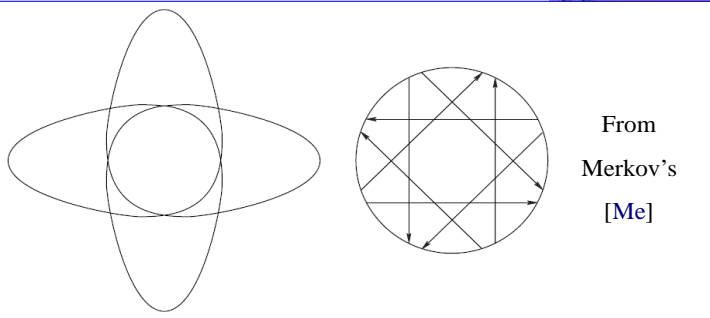
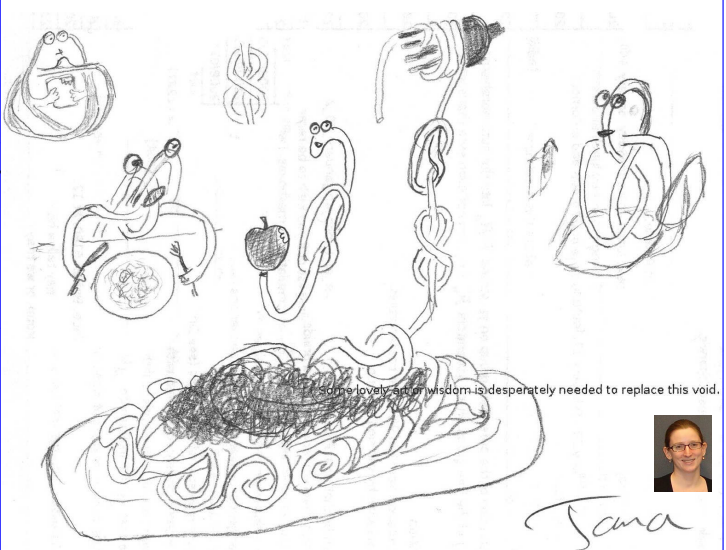
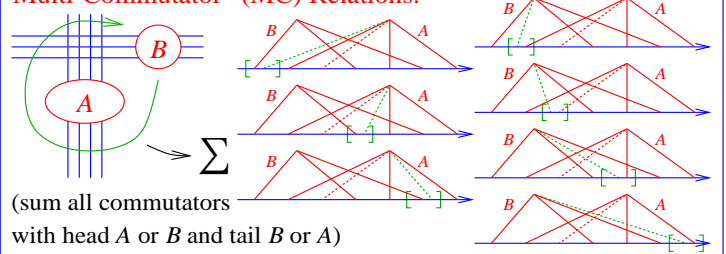
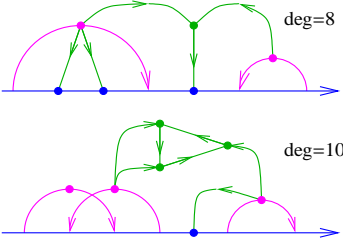


Figure 3. A non-trivial 1-doodle and its arrow diagram

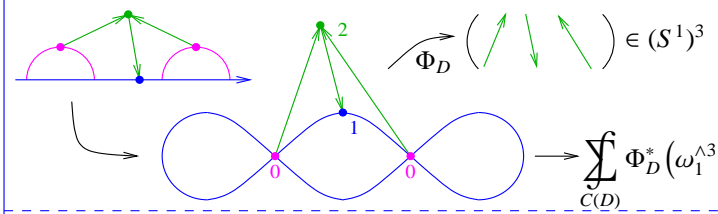
"God created the knots, all else in topology is the work of mortals."  
Leopold Kronecker (modified)  
www.katlas.org

**Feynman Diagrams and a Lower Bound on  $(\mathcal{K}_0/\mathcal{K}_{n+1})^*$ .**

**Feynman Diagrams.** A blue “skeleton line” at the bottom. A magenta “arrow diagram” (directed pairing of skeleton points) on top, with a magenta dot at the middle of each arrow. A green directed graph on top, with 2-in 1-out antisymmetric green vertices, with arbitrary number of green edges starting at the magenta dots, and with some green edges terminating at distinct blue skeleton points. The degree is the total valency of the magenta dots.



**Configuration Space Integrals.**

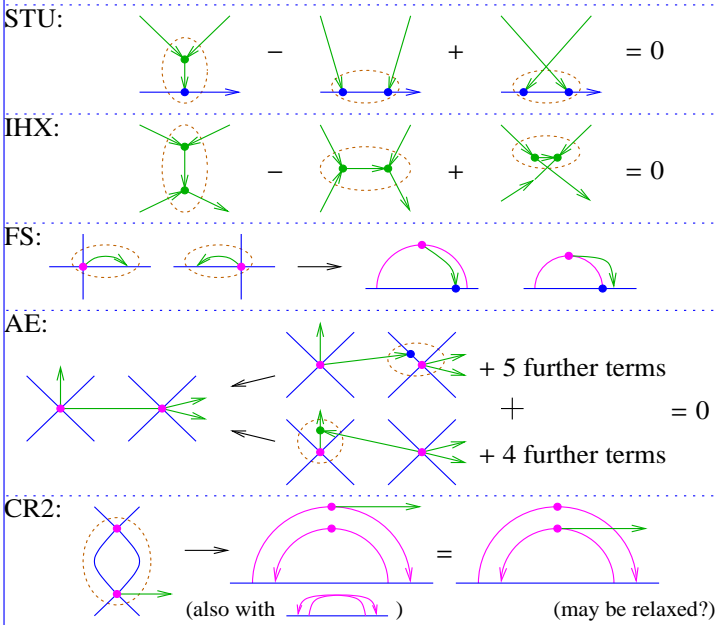


**The “Partition Function” Z.**

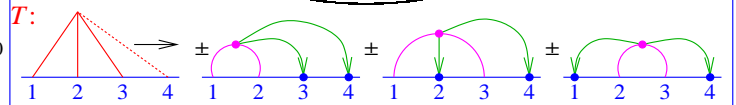
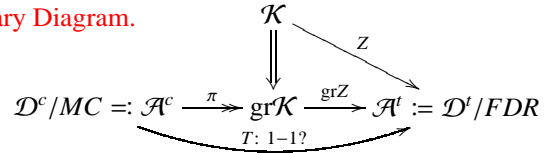
$$K \mapsto Z(K) := \sum_{\text{Feynman diagrams } C(D)} \Phi_D^*(\omega_1^{\wedge e(D)}) \in \mathcal{A}^t := \langle D \rangle / (\partial\text{-relations}).$$

**Theorem (90%).** Z is an invariant of doodles.

**∂-relations.** STU, IHX, Foot Swap (FS), Arrow Exchange (AE), and Combinatorial R2 (CR2):



**Summary Diagram.**



**An unfinished project!**

- Nothing is written up.
- We don't know if T is injective (meaning, if our upper and lower bounds agree).
- We don't know if all of  $\mathcal{A}^t$  is necessary — it is very possible that it is enough to restrict to the green-less part of  $\mathcal{A}^t$  — to “Gauss Diagram Formulas”.
- We haven't clarified the relationship with Merkov's [Me].
- A few further configuration space integrals can be written beyond those that we have used. We don't know what to do with those, if anything.
- We don't know the relationship, if any, with algebra.
- We don't know the relationship, if any, with quantum field theory.
- We don't know how to do similar things with 2-knots.

**References.** The root, of course, is [Ar]. Further references on doodles include [Kh, FT, Me, Ta, Va1, Va2]. On Goussarov finite-type: [Go, BN].

[Ar] V.I. Arnold, *Topological Invariants of Plane Curves and Caustics*, American Mathematical Society, 1994.

[BN] D. Bar-Natan, *Bracelets and the Goussarov filtration of the space of knots*, *Invariants of knots and 3-manifolds (Kyoto 2001)*, Geometry and Topology Monographs 4 1–12, arXiv:math.GT/0111267.

[FT] R. Fenn and P. Taylor, *Introducing Doodles*, in *Topology of Low-Dimensional Manifolds, Proceedings of the Second Sussex Conference, 1977*, Springer 1979.

[Go] M. Goussarov, *Interdependent modifications of links and invariants of finite degree*, *Topology* 37-3 (1998) 595–602.

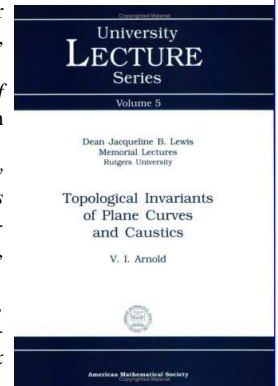
[Kh] M. Khovanov, *Doodle Groups*, *Trans. Amer. Math. Soc.* 349-6 (1997) 2297–2315.

[Me] A.B. Merkov, *Vassiliev Invariants Classify Plane Curves and Doodles*, *Sbornik: Mathematics* 194-9 (2003) 1301.

[Ta] S. Tabachnikov, *Invariants of Smooth Triple Point Free Plane Curves*, *Jour. of Knot Theory and its Ramifications* 5-4 (1996) 531–552.

[Va1] V.A. Vassiliev, *On Finite Order Invariants of Triple Point Free Plane Curves*, 1999 preprint, arXiv:1407.7227.

[Va2] V.A. Vassiliev, *Invariants of Ornaments*, *Adv. in Soviet Math.* 21 (1994) 225–262.



**Abstract.** To break a week of deep thinking with a nice colourful light dessert, we will present the Kolmogorov-Arnold solution of Hilbert's 13th problem with lots of computer-generated rainbow-painted 3D pictures.

In short, Hilbert asked if a certain specific function of three variables can be written as a multiple (yet finite) composition of continuous functions of just two variables. Kolmogorov and Arnold showed him silly (ok, it took about 60 years, so it was a bit tricky) by showing that **any** continuous function  $f$  of any finite number of variables is a finite composition of continuous functions of a single variable and several instances of the binary function "+" (addition). For  $f(x, y) = xy$ , this may be  $xy = \exp(\log x + \log y)$ . For  $f(x, y, z) = x^y/z$ , this may be  $\exp(\exp(\log y + \log \log x) + (-\log z))$ . What might it be for (say) the real part of the Riemann zeta function?

The only original material in this talk will be the pictures; the math was known since around 1957.



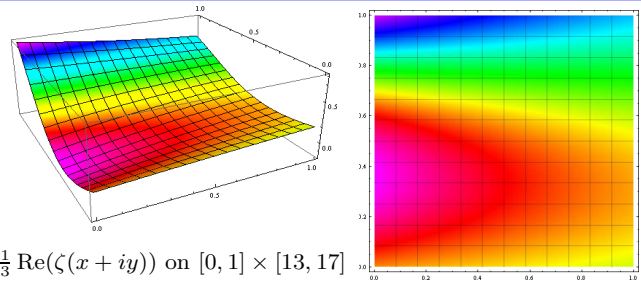
Hilbert



Kolmogorov



Arnold (by Moser)



$\frac{1}{3} \operatorname{Re}(\zeta(x + iy))$  on  $[0, 1] \times [13, 17]$

Fix an irrational  $\lambda > 0$ , say  $\lambda = (\sqrt{5} - 1)/2$ . All functions are continuous.

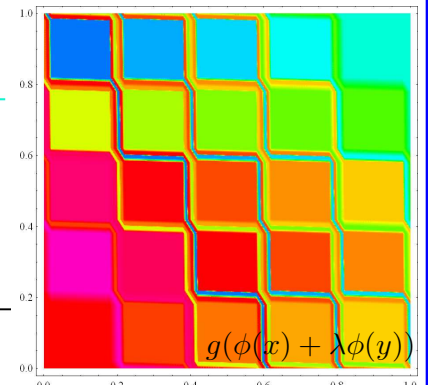
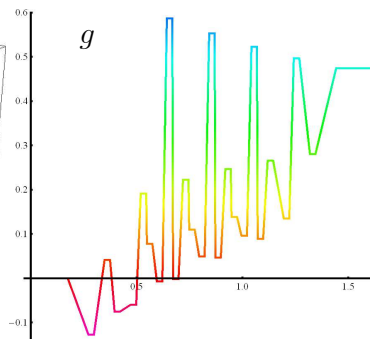
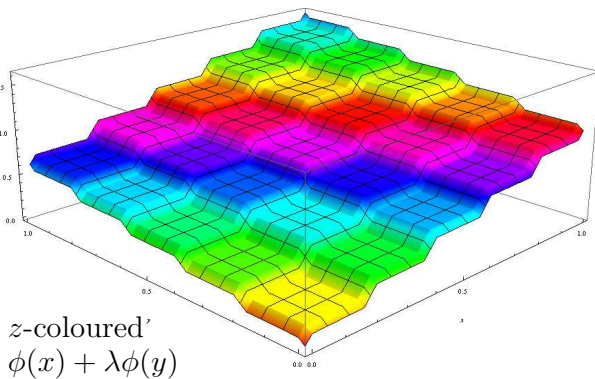
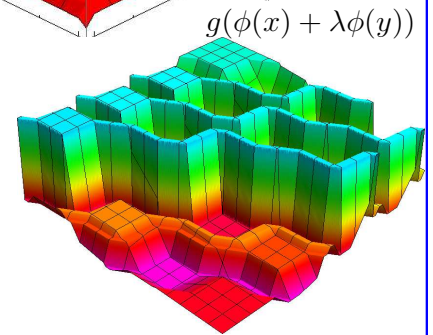
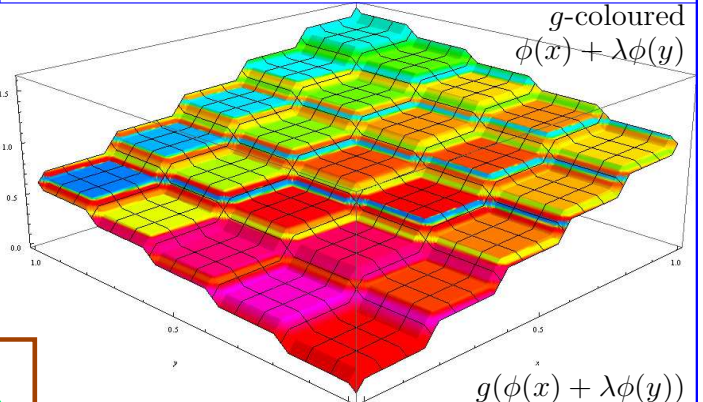
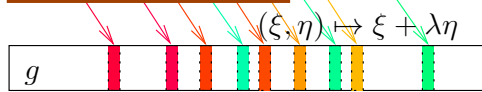
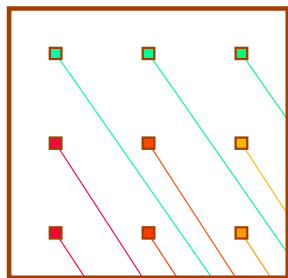
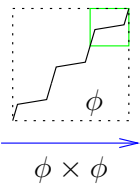
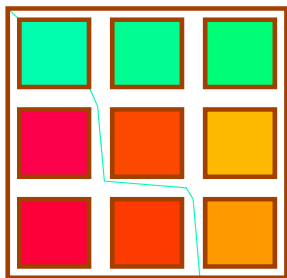
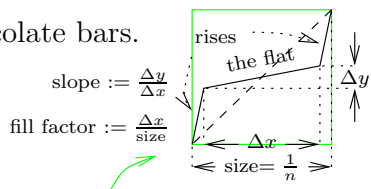
**Theorem.** There exist five  $\phi_i : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  ( $1 \leq i \leq 5$ ) so that for every  $f : [0, 1] \times [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  there exists a  $g : [0, 1 + \lambda] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  so that

$$f(x, y) = \sum_{i=1}^5 g(\phi_i(x) + \lambda\phi_i(y))$$

for every  $x, y \in [0, 1]$ .

**Step 1.** If  $\epsilon > 0$  and  $f : [0, 1] \times [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , then there exists  $\phi : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  and  $g : [0, 1 + \lambda] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  so that  $|f(x, y) - g(\phi(x) + \lambda\phi(y))| < \epsilon$  on at least 98% of the area of  $[0, 1] \times [0, 1]$ .

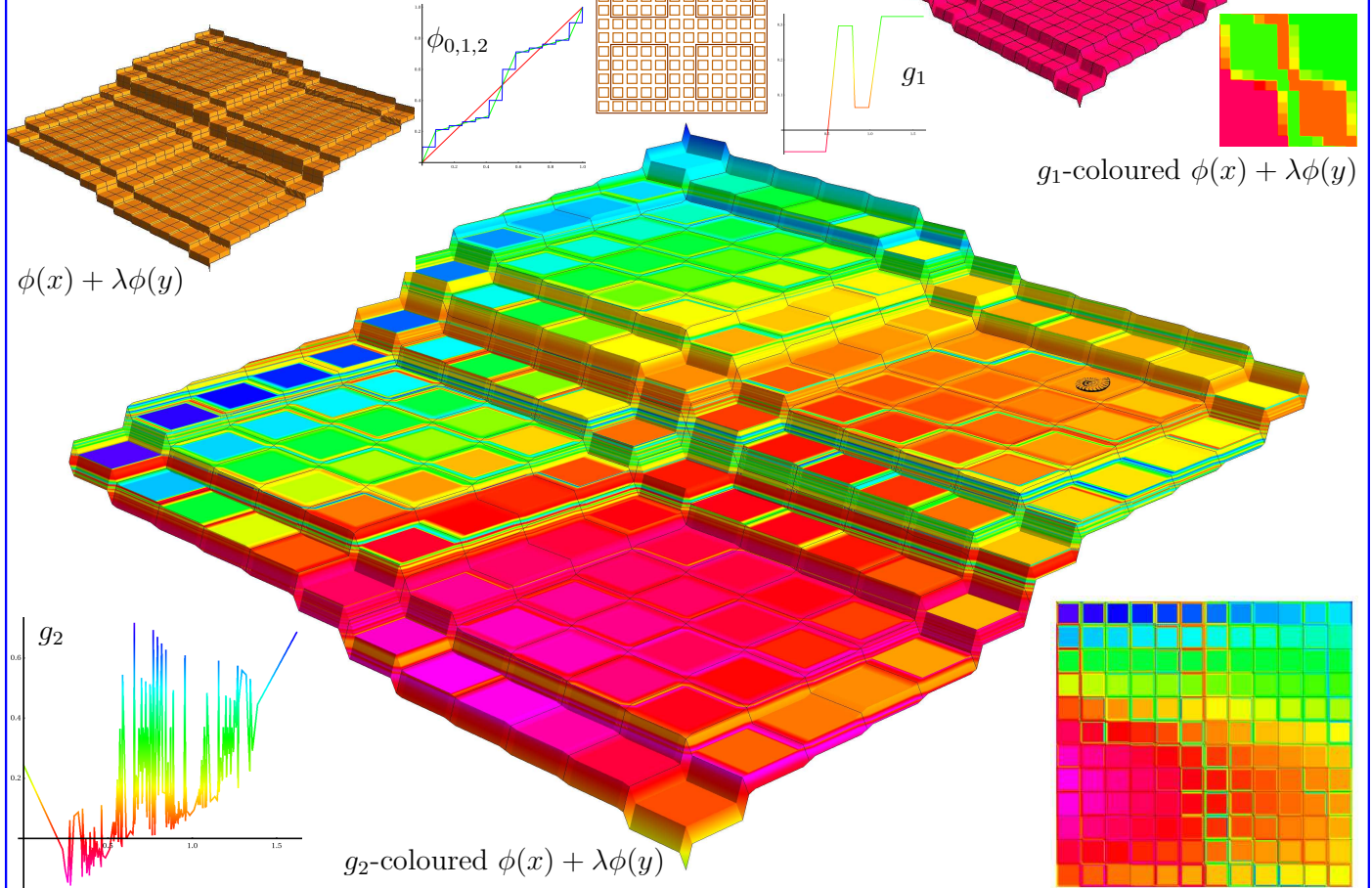
**The key.** "Poorify" chocolate bars.



**Dessert: Hilbert's 13th Problem, in Full Colour (Page 2)**

**Step 2.** There exists  $\phi : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  so that for every  $\epsilon > 0$  and every  $f : [0, 1] \times [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  there exists a  $g : [0, 1 + \lambda] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  so that  $|f(x, y) - g(\phi(x) + \lambda\phi(y))| < \epsilon$  on a set of area at least  $1 - \epsilon$  in  $[0, 1] \times [0, 1]$ .

**The key.** "Iterated poorification".

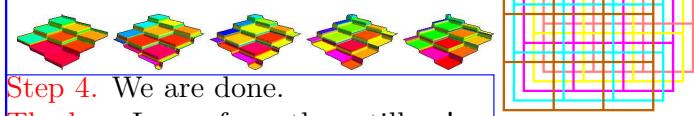


**Step 3.** There exist  $\phi_i : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  ( $1 \leq i \leq 5$ ) so that for every  $\epsilon > 0$  and every  $f : [0, 1] \times [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  there exists a  $g : [0, 1 + \lambda] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  so that

$$|f(x, y) - \sum_{i=1}^5 g(\phi_i(x) + \lambda\phi_i(y))| < \left(\frac{2}{3} + \epsilon\right) \|f\|_\infty$$

for every  $x, y \in [0, 1]$ .

**The key.** "Shift the chocolates"...



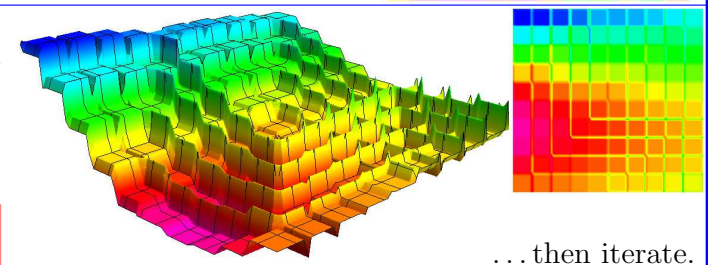
**Step 4.** We are done.

**The key.** Learn from the artillery!

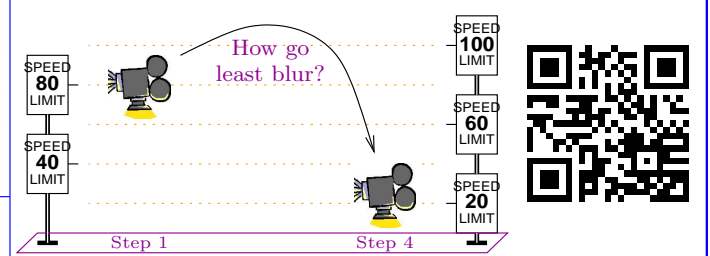
Set  $Tg := \sum_{i=1}^5 g(\phi_i(x) + \lambda\phi_i(y))$ ,  $f_1 := f$ ,  $M := \|f\|$ , and iterate "shooting and adjusting". Find  $g_1$  with  $\|g_1\| \leq M$  and  $\|f_2 := f_1 - Tg_1\| \leq \frac{3}{4}M$ . Find  $g_2$  with  $\|g_2\| \leq \frac{3}{4}M$  and  $\|f_3 := f_2 - Tg_2\| \leq (\frac{3}{4})^2M$ . Find  $g_3$  with  $\|g_3\| \leq (\frac{3}{4})^2M$  and  $\|f_4 := f_3 - Tg_3\| \leq (\frac{3}{4})^3M$ . Continue to eternity. When done, set  $g = \sum g_k$  and note that  $f = Tg$  as required.

**Exercise 1.** Do the  $m$ -dimensional case.

**Exercise 2.** Do  $\mathbb{R}^m$  instead of just  $I^m$ .



**Propaganda.** I love handouts! • I have nothing to hide and you can take what you want, forwards, backwards, here and at home. • What doesn't fit on one sheet can't be done in one hour. • It takes learning and many hours and a few pennies. The audience's worth it! • There's real math in the handout viewer!



Treehouse Talks, Friday October 17, 2014, Beeton Auditorium, Toronto Reference Library, 789 Yonge Street, 6:30PM

**Abstract.** My goal is to get you hooked, captured and unreleased until you find all 17 in real life, around you.

We all know know that the plane can be filled in different periodic manners: floor tiles are often square but sometimes hexagonal, bricks are often laid in an interlaced pattern, fabrics often carry interesting patterns. A little less known is that there are precisely 17 symmetry patterns for tiling the plane; not one more, not one less. It is even less known how easy these 17 are to identify in the patterns around you, how fun it is, how common some are, and how rare some others seem to be.

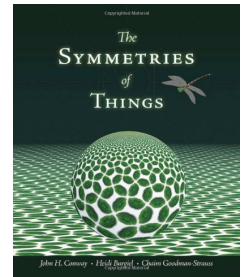
**Gotta catch 'em all!**

**Reading.** An excellent book on the subject is *The Symmetries of Things* by J. H. Conway, H. Burgiel, and C. Goodman-Strauss, CRC Press, 2008.

Another nice text is *Classical Tessellations and Three-Manifolds* by J. M. Montesinos, Springer-Verlag, 1987.

**Question.** In what ways can you make \$2 change, using coins denominated  $\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{2}{3}$ ,  $\frac{3}{4}$ ,  $\frac{4}{5}$ ,  $\frac{5}{6}$ , etc.?

**Answer.**  $2 = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} = \frac{2}{3} + \frac{2}{3} + \frac{2}{3} = \frac{3}{4} + \frac{3}{4} + \frac{1}{2} = \frac{5}{6} + \frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{2}$ , and that's it.



Video, handout, links at [drorbn.net/Treehouse](http://drorbn.net/Treehouse)

### The Basic Features.

**3**

rotation only

**3**

rotation-reflection

**M**

free mirror-reflection

**G**

free glide-reflection

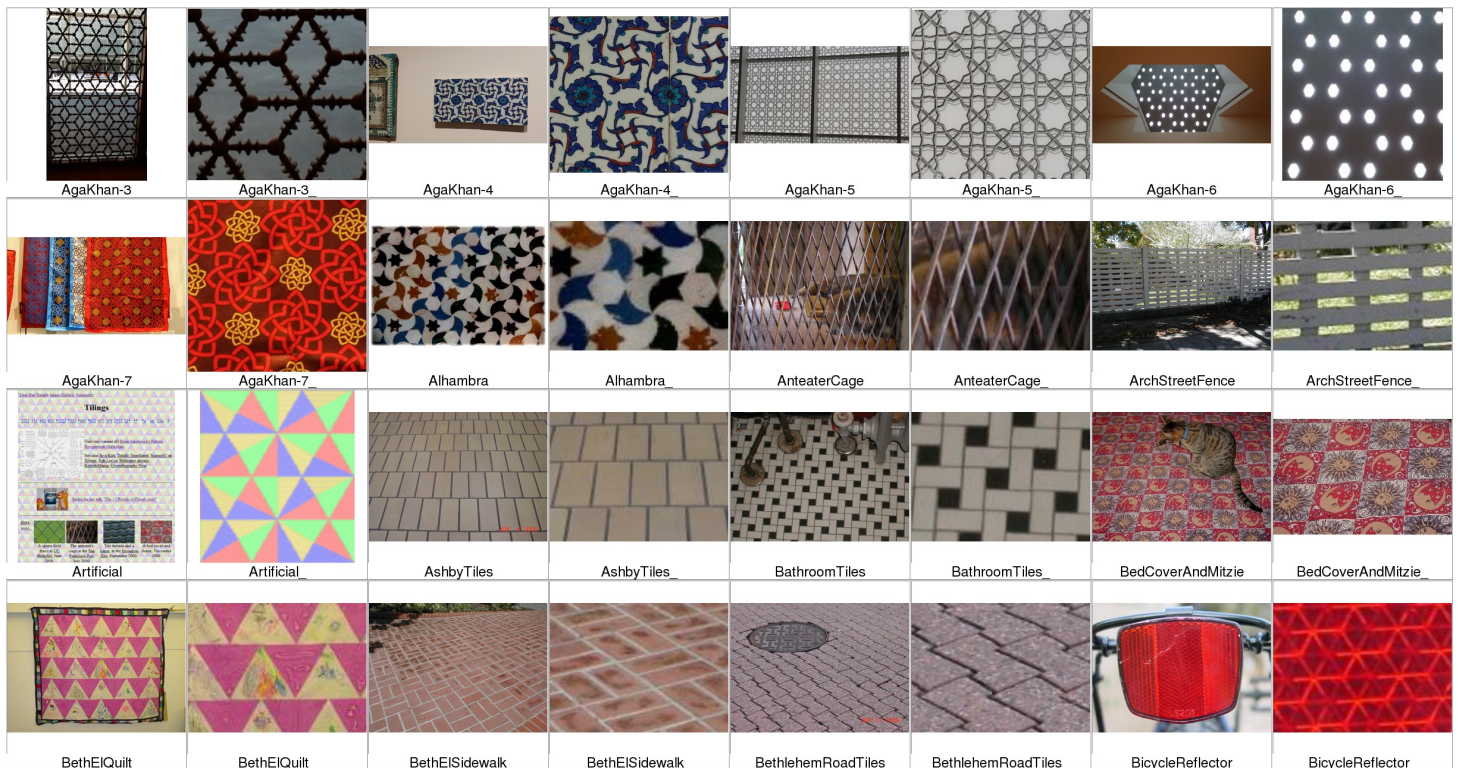
**Gotta catch 'em all!**

**Theorem.** There are precisely 17 patterns with which to tile the plane, no more, no less. They are all made of combinations of the 10 basic features, **2, 3, 4, 6, 2, 3, 4, 6, M, and G**, as follows:

✓	Dror's	Conway's	crystallo-graphic	✓	Dror's	Conway's	crystallo-graphic
	<b>2222</b>	2222	p2		<b>33</b>	3*3	p31m
	<b>333</b>	333	p3		<b>222</b>	2*22	cmm
	<b>442</b>	442	p4		<b>22M</b>	22*	pmg
	<b>632</b>	632	p6		<b>MM</b>	**	pm
	<b>2222</b>	*2222	pmm		<b>MG</b>	*o	cm
	<b>333</b>	*333	p3m1		<b>GG</b>	oo	pg
	<b>442</b>	*442	p4m		<b>22G</b>	22o	pgg
	<b>632</b>	*632	p6m		<b>0</b>	0	p1
	<b>42</b>	4*2	p4g				

© Dror Bar-Natan, October 2014

**Tilings worksheet.** Classify the following pictures according to the following possibilities: **2222=2222**, **333=333**, **442=442**, **632=632**, **2222=\*2222**, **333=\*333**, **442=\*442**, **632=\*632**, **42=4\*2**, **33=3\*3**, **222=2\*22**, **22M=22\***, **MM=\*\***, **MG=\*o**, **GG=oo**, **22G=22o**, and **0=0** (the pictures come in {context, pattern} pairs).





# The 17 Worlds of Planar Ants

Goal. Get you hooked!

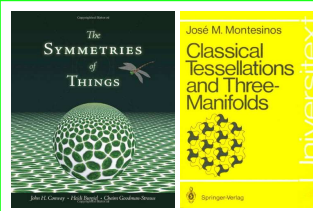
Video, handout, links at  $\omega$ /



**Abstract.** Back in early 2000, I got my first digital camera and set out to take pictures of my kids and of symmetric patterns in the plane ( $\omega$ /Tilings). There are exactly 17 of those, no more, no less. It is an addicting challenge to walk around



Lou Kauffman's Tie



### Books.

- J. H. Conway, H. Burgiel, and C. Goodman-Strauss, *The Symmetries of Things*, CRC Press, 2008.
- J. M. Montesinos, *Classical Tessellations and Three-Manifolds*, Springer-Verlag, 1987.

- What would history look like if we were living on Venus?
- What do the ants on Lou Kauffman's tie think?

### The Renaissance Story

$\omega$ /Longtin



### The Venus Story



$\omega$ /DW

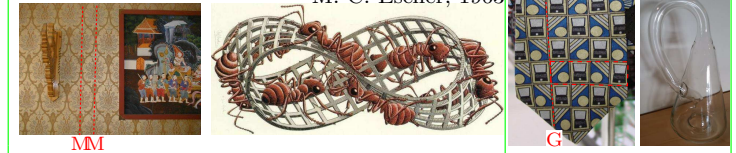
### The Lake Merritt Story



### The Racha Cafe Story

M. C. Escher, 1963

### Tie@Fry's

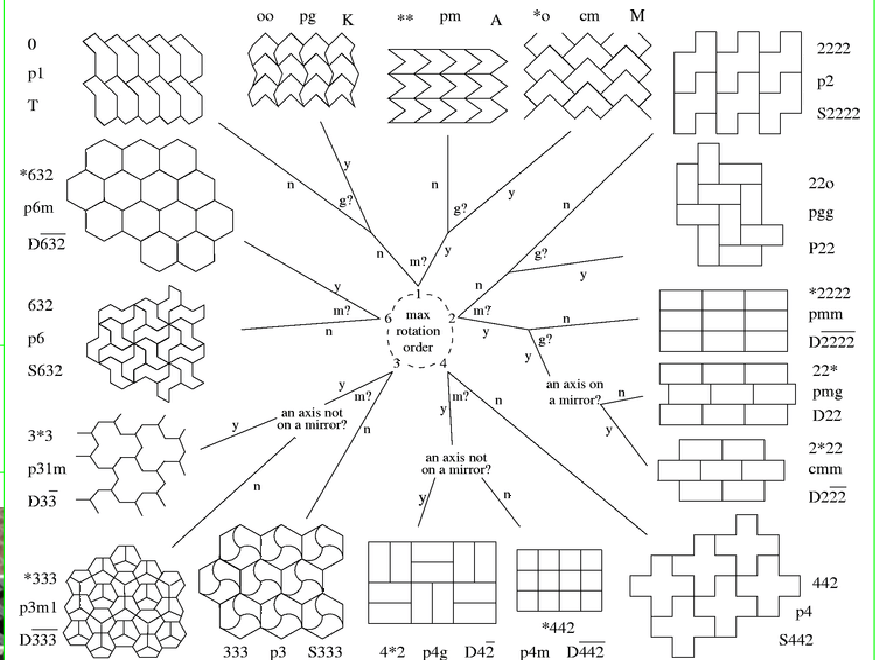


$\omega$ /Sanderson

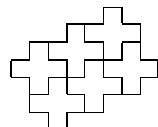
**Claim.** Exactly 10 "features" are possible. They are  $M$ ,  $G$ ,  $2$ ,  $3$ ,  $4$ ,  $6$ ,  $\bar{2}$ ,  $\bar{3}$ ,  $\bar{4}$ , and  $\bar{6}$ .

## Brian Sanderson's Pattern Recognition Algorithm

Is the maximum rotation order 1,2,3,4 or 6? Is there a mirror (m)? Is there an indecomposable glide reflection (g)? Is there a rotation axis on a mirror? Is there a rotation axis not on a mirror?



Note: Every pattern is identified according to three systems of notation, as in the example below:



442: The Conway-Thurston notation, as used in my [tilings page](#).

p4: The International Union of Crystallography notation.

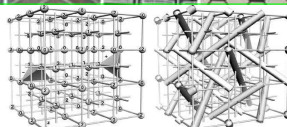
S442: The Montesinos notation, as in his book [Classical Tessellations and Three Manifolds](#)

**Theorem.** There are exactly 17 "tilings" of the plane:  $\emptyset=0$ ,  $MM=**$ ,  $MG=*o$ ,  $GG=oo$ ,  $2222=2222$ ,  $333=333$ ,  $442=442$ ,  $632=632$ ,  $\bar{2}\bar{2}\bar{2}\bar{2}=*2222$ ,  $\bar{3}\bar{3}\bar{3}=*333$ ,  $\bar{4}\bar{4}\bar{2}=*442$ ,  $\bar{6}\bar{3}\bar{2}=*632$ ,  $\bar{4}\bar{2}=4*2$ ,  $\bar{3}\bar{3}=3*3$ ,  $\bar{2}\bar{2}\bar{2}=2*22$ ,  $\bar{2}\bar{2}M=22*$ ,  $\bar{2}\bar{2}G=22o$ . 18??



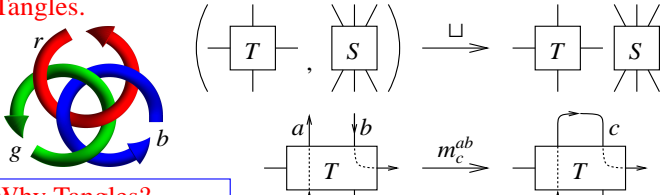
**The 230 Worlds of Spatial Monkeys** (The 219 worlds of Monkeys that Can't Tell their Left from their Right)

$\omega$ /Crys,  $\omega$ /CFHT



**Abstract.** I will describe some very good formulas for a (matrix plus scalar)-valued extension of the Alexander polynomial to tangles, then say that everything extends to virtual tangles, then roughly to simply knotted balloons and hoops in 4D, then the target space extends to (free Lie algebras plus cyclic words), and the result is a universal finite type of the knotted objects in its domain. Taking a cue from the BF topological quantum field theory, everything should extend (with some modifications) to arbitrary codimension-2 knots in arbitrary dimension and in particular, to arbitrary 2-knots in 4D. But what is really going on is still a mystery.

**Tangles.**



**Why Tangles?**

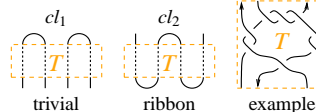
- Finitely presented. (meta-associativity:  $m_c^{ab} // m_c^{ac} = m_c^{bc} // m_c^{ab}$ )

- Divide and conquer proofs and computations.

- “Algebraic Knot Theory”: If  $K$  is ribbon,

$$Z(K) \in \{cl_2(Z): cl_1(Z) = 1\}.$$

(Genus and crossing number are also definable properties).



**Theorem 1.**  $\exists!$  an invariant  $\gamma: \{\text{pure framed } S\text{-component tangles}\} \rightarrow R \times M_{S \times S}(R)$ , where  $R = R_S = \mathbb{Z}\langle\langle T_a \rangle\rangle_{a \in S}$  is the ring of rational functions in  $S$  variables, intertwining

$$1. \left( \begin{array}{c|c} \omega_1 & S_1 \\ \hline S_1 & A_1 \end{array}, \begin{array}{c|c} \omega_2 & S_2 \\ \hline S_2 & A_2 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{\sqcup} \begin{array}{c|cc} \omega_1 \omega_2 & S_1 & S_2 \\ \hline S_1 & A_1 & 0 \\ S_2 & 0 & A_2 \end{array}$$
  
$$2. \begin{array}{c|ccc} \omega & a & b & S \\ \hline a & \alpha & \beta & \theta \\ b & \gamma & \delta & \epsilon \\ S & \phi & \psi & \Xi \end{array} \xrightarrow[\mu:=1-\beta]{m_c^{ab}} \begin{array}{c|cc} \mu\omega & c & S \\ \hline c & \gamma + \alpha\delta/\mu & \epsilon + \delta\theta/\mu \\ S & \phi + \alpha\psi/\mu & \Xi + \psi\theta/\mu \end{array}_{T_a, T_b \rightarrow T_c}$$

and satisfying  $(|a; a \nearrow b, b \nearrow a) \xrightarrow{\gamma} \left( \begin{array}{c|c} 1 & a \\ \hline a & 1 \end{array}; \begin{array}{c|cc} 1 & a & b \\ \hline a & 1 & 1 - T_a^{\pm 1} \\ & 0 & T_a^{\pm 1} \end{array} \right)$

**In Addition,** • This is really “just” a stitching formula for Burau/Gassner [LD, KLW, CT].

- $L \mapsto \omega$  is Alexander, mod units.
- $L \mapsto (\omega, A) \mapsto \omega \det'(A - I)/(1 - T')$  is the MVA, mod units.
- The “fastest” Alexander algorithm.
- There are also formulas for strand deletion, reversal, and doubling.
- Every step along the computation is the invariant of something.
- Extends to and more naturally defined on v/w-tangles.
- Fits in one column, including propaganda & implementation.



**Implementation key idea:**

```
ωεβ/Demo
F := F[ω1, λ1] F[ω2, λ2] := F[ω1*ω2, λ1+λ2];
m_{a,b} := F[ω, λ] := Module[α, β, γ, δ, ε, φ, ψ, Ξ, μ],
(α β θ) = (σ_{t_a, h_a} λ σ_{t_b, h_b} λ σ_{t_c, λ}) / (t | h)_{a,b} → 0;
(γ δ ε) = (σ_{t_a, h_a} λ σ_{t_b, h_b} λ σ_{t_c, λ}) / (φ + αψ/μ Ξ + ψθ/μ);
R := UnionCases[F[ω, λ], {h | t_c} → a, ω];
M = Outer[Factor[σ_{t_a, h_a} λ], S, S];
M = Prepend[M, t_a & /@ S] // Transpose;
M = Prepend[M, Prepend[h_a & /@ S, ω]];
M // MatrixForm;
```

**Meta-Associativity**

$$\gamma = \Gamma[\omega, \{t_1, t_2, t_3, t_s\} \cdot \left( \begin{array}{cccc} \alpha_{11} & \alpha_{12} & \alpha_{13} & \theta_1 \\ \alpha_{21} & \alpha_{22} & \alpha_{23} & \theta_2 \\ \alpha_{31} & \alpha_{32} & \alpha_{33} & \theta_3 \\ \phi_1 & \phi_2 & \phi_3 & \Xi \end{array} \right) \cdot \{h_1, h_2, h_3, h_s\};$$

$$(\gamma // m_{12 \rightarrow 1} // m_{13 \rightarrow 1}) = (\gamma // m_{23 \rightarrow 2} // m_{12 \rightarrow 1})$$

**True R3**

$$\{Rm_{51} Rm_{62} Rp_{34} // m_{14 \rightarrow 1} // m_{25 \rightarrow 2} // m_{36 \rightarrow 3}, Rp_{61} Rm_{24} Rm_{35} // m_{14 \rightarrow 1} // m_{25 \rightarrow 2} // m_{36 \rightarrow 3}\}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ccc} 1 & h_1 & h_2 & h_3 \\ t_1 & \frac{T_3}{T_2} & 0 & 0 \\ t_2 & \frac{-1+T_2}{T_2} & \frac{1}{T_3} & 0 \\ t_3 & \frac{-1+T_3}{T_2} & \frac{-1+T_3}{T_3} & 1 \end{array} \right\}, \left\{ \begin{array}{ccc} 1 & h_1 & h_2 & h_3 \\ t_1 & \frac{T_3}{T_2} & 0 & 0 \\ t_2 & \frac{-1+T_2}{T_2} & \frac{1}{T_3} & 0 \\ t_3 & \frac{-1+T_3}{T_2} & \frac{-1+T_3}{T_3} & 1 \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\gamma = Rm_{12,1} Rm_{27} Rm_{83} Rm_{4,11} Rp_{16,5} Rp_{6,13} Rp_{14,9} Rp_{10,15};$$

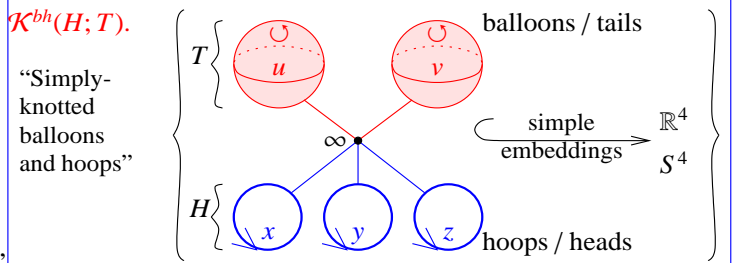
$$Do[\gamma = \gamma // m_{1k \rightarrow 1}, \{k, 2, 16\}];$$

$$\gamma \left( \begin{array}{c|c} -\frac{1-4T_1+8T_1^2-11T_1^3+8T_1^4-4T_1^5+T_1^6}{T_1^3} & h_1 \\ \hline & 1 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \text{diagram with crossings and labels } 8, 17$$

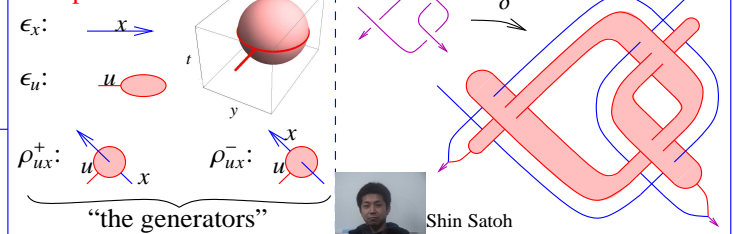
**Weaknesses,** •  $m_c^{ab}$  is non-linear.

- The product  $\omega A$  is always Laurent, but proving this takes induction with exponentially many conditions.

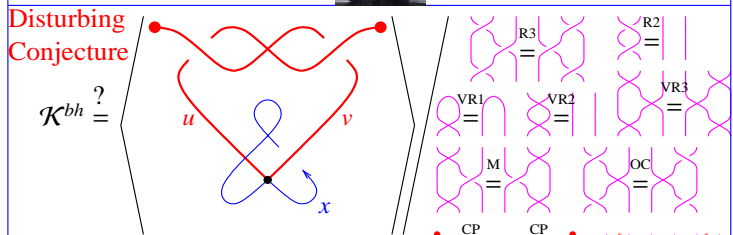
**$\mathcal{K}^{bh}(H; T)$ .**



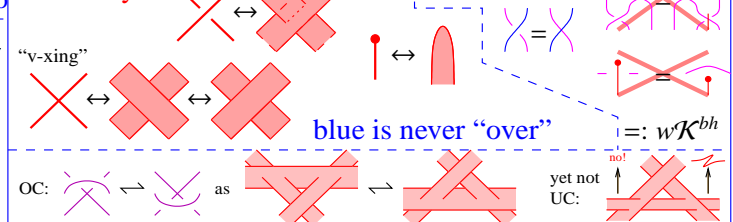
**Examples.**



**Disturbing Conjecture**

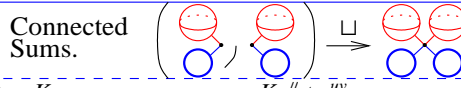


**Dictionary.**



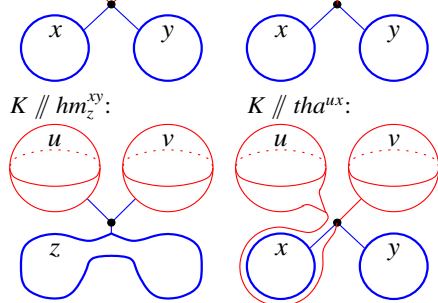
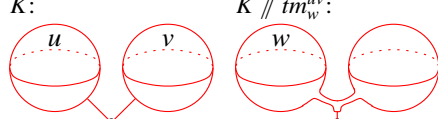
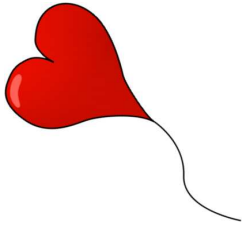
**Operations**

**Punctures & Cuts**



If  $X$  is a space,  $\pi_1(X)$  is a group,  $\pi_2(X)$  is an Abelian group, and  $\pi_1$  acts on  $\pi_2$ .

**Proposition.** The generators generate.



**Definition.**  $l_{xu}$  is the linking number of hoop  $x$  with balloon  $u$ . For  $x \in H$ ,  $\sigma_x := \prod_{u \in T} T_u^{l_{xu}} \in R = R_T = \mathbb{Z}((T_a)_{a \in T})$ , the ring of rational functions in  $T$  variables.

**Theorem 2 [BNS].**  $\exists!$  an invariant  $\beta: w\mathcal{K}^{bh}(H; T) \rightarrow R \times M_{T \times H}(R)$ , intertwining

$$1. \left( \begin{array}{c|c} \omega_1 & H_1 \\ \hline T_1 & A_1 \end{array}, \begin{array}{c|c} \omega_2 & H_2 \\ \hline T_2 & A_2 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{\sqcup} \begin{array}{c|cc} \omega_1\omega_2 & H_1 & H_2 \\ \hline T_1 & A_1 & 0 \\ T_2 & 0 & A_2 \end{array}$$

$$2. \begin{array}{c|c} \omega & H \\ \hline u & \alpha \\ v & \beta \\ T & \Xi \end{array} \xrightarrow{tm_w^{uv}} \begin{array}{c|c} \omega & H \\ \hline w & \alpha + \beta \\ T & \Xi \end{array}_{T_u, T_v \rightarrow T_w}$$

$$3. \begin{array}{c|cc|c} \omega & x & y & H \\ \hline T & \alpha & \beta & \Xi \end{array} \xrightarrow{hm_z^{xy}} \begin{array}{c|c|c} \omega & z & H \\ \hline T & \alpha + \sigma_x\beta & \Xi \end{array}$$

$$4. \begin{array}{c|c|c} \omega & x & H \\ \hline u & \alpha & \theta \\ T & \phi & \Xi \end{array} \xrightarrow[\nu:=1+\alpha]{tha^{ux}} \begin{array}{c|c} \nu\omega & x & H \\ \hline u & \sigma_x\alpha/\nu & \sigma_x\theta/\nu \\ T & \phi/\nu & \Xi - \phi\theta/\nu \end{array}$$

and satisfying  $(\epsilon_x; \epsilon_u; \rho_{ux}^\pm) \xrightarrow{\beta} \left( \begin{array}{c|c} 1 & x \\ \hline u & \end{array}; \begin{array}{c|c} 1 & \\ \hline u & T_u^{\pm 1} - 1 \end{array} \right)$ .

**Proposition.** If  $T$  is a u-tangle and  $\beta(\delta T) = (\omega, A)$ , then  $\gamma(T) = (\omega, \sigma - A)$ , where  $\sigma = \text{diag}(\sigma_a)_{a \in S}$ . Under this,  $m_c^{ab} \leftrightarrow tha^{ab} // tm_c^{ab} // hm_c^{ab}$ .

**References.**

[BN] D. Bar-Natan, *Balloons and Hoops and their Universal Finite Type Invariant, BF Theory, and an Ultimate Alexander Invariant*,  $\omega\epsilon\beta$ /KBH, arXiv:1308.1721.

[BND] D. Bar-Natan and Z. Dancso, *Finite Type Invariants of W-Knotted Objects I-II*,  $\omega\epsilon\beta$ /WKO1,  $\omega\epsilon\beta$ /WKO2, arXiv:1405.1956, arXiv:1405.1955.

[BNS] D. Bar-Natan and S. Selmani, *Meta-Monoids, Meta-Bicrossed Products, and the Alexander Polynomial*, J. of Knot Theory and its Ramifications **22-10** (2013), arXiv:1302.5689.

[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.

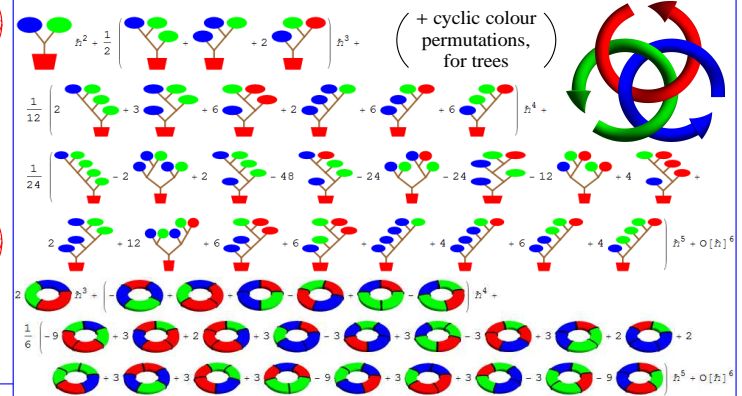
[CT] D. Cimasoni and V. Turaev, *A Lagrangian Representation of Tangles*, Topology **44** (2005) 747–767, arXiv:math.GT/0406269.

[KLW] P. Kirk, C. Livingston, and Z. Wang, *The Gassner Representation for String Links*, Comm. Cont. Math. **3** (2001) 87–136, arXiv:math/9806035.

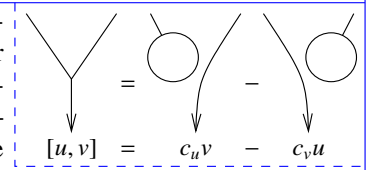
[LD] J. Y. Le Dimet, *Enlacements d'Intervalles et Représentation de Gassner*, Comment. Math. Helv. **67** (1992) 306–315.

**Theorem 3 [BND, BN].**  $\exists!$  a homomorphic expansion, aka a homomorphic universal finite type invariant  $Z$  of  $w$ -knotted balloons and hoops.  $\zeta := \log Z$  takes values in  $FL(T)^H \times CW(T)$ .

$\zeta$  is computable!  $\zeta$  of the Borromean tangle, to degree 5:



**Proposition [BN].** Modulo all relations that universally hold for the 2D non-Abelian Lie algebra and after some changes-of-variable,  $\zeta$  reduces to  $\beta$  and the KBH operations on  $\zeta$  reduce to the formulas in Theorem 2.



**A Big Question.** Does it all extend to arbitrary 2-knots (not necessarily “simple”)? To arbitrary codimension-2 knots?

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

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

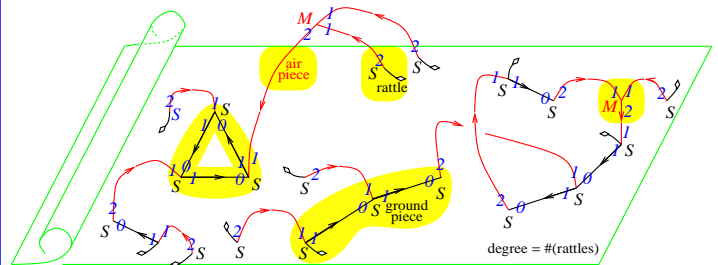
With  $\kappa: (S = \mathbb{R}^2) \rightarrow M$ ,  $\beta \in \Omega^0(S, \mathfrak{g})$ ,  $\alpha \in \Omega^1(S, \mathfrak{g}^*)$ , set

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

**The BF Feynman Rules.** For an edge  $e$ , let  $\Phi_e$  be its direction, in  $S^3$  or  $S^1$ . Let  $\omega_3$  and  $\omega_1$  be volume forms on  $S^3$  and  $S^1$ . Then

$$Z_{BF} = \sum_{\text{diagrams } D} \frac{|D|}{|\text{Aut}(D)|} \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \dots \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^4} \dots \int_{\mathbb{R}^4} \prod_{e \in D} \Phi_e^* \omega_3 \prod_{e \in D} \Phi_e^* \omega_1$$

(modulo some  $STU$ - and  $IHX$ -like relations).



**Issues.** • Signs don't quite work out, and BF seems to reproduce only “half” of the wheels invariant.

- There are many more configuration space integrals than BF Feynman diagrams and than just trees and wheels.
- I don't know how to define “finite type” for arbitrary 2-knots.



“God created the knots, all else in topology is the work of mortals.”

Leopold Kronecker (modified)

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## Gaussian Integration, Determinants, Feynman Diagrams

**Gaussian Integration.**  $(\lambda_{ij})$  is a symmetric positive definite matrix and  $(\lambda^{ij})$  is its inverse, and  $(\lambda_{ijk})$  are the coefficients of some cubic form. Denote by  $(x^i)_{i=1}^n$  the coordinates of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , let  $(t_i)_{i=1}^n$  be a set of “dual” variables, and let  $\partial^i$  denote  $\frac{\partial}{\partial t_i}$ . Also let  $C := \frac{(2\pi)^{n/2}}{\det(\lambda_{ij})}$ . Then

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} e^{-\frac{1}{2}\lambda_{ij}x^i x^j + \frac{\epsilon}{6}\lambda_{ijk}x^i x^j x^k} = \sum_{m \geq 0} \frac{\epsilon^m}{6^m m!} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (\lambda_{ijk}x^i x^j x^k)^m e^{-\frac{1}{2}\lambda_{ij}x^i x^j}$$

$$= \sum_{m \geq 0} \frac{C \epsilon^m}{6^m m!} (\lambda_{ijk} \partial^i \partial^j \partial^k)^m e^{\frac{1}{2}\lambda^{\alpha\beta} t_\alpha t_\beta} \Big|_{t_\alpha=0} = \sum_{\substack{m, l \geq 0 \\ 3m=2l}} \frac{C \epsilon^m}{6^m m! 2^l l!} (\lambda_{ijk} \partial^i \partial^j \partial^k)^m (\lambda^{\alpha\beta} t_\alpha t_\beta)^l$$

Feynman

$$= C \sum_{\text{unmarked Feynman diagrams } D} \frac{\epsilon^{m(D)} \mathcal{E}(D)}{|\text{Aut}(D)|}$$

**Claim.** The number of pairings that produce a given unmarked Feynman diagram  $D$  is  $\frac{6^m m! 2^l l!}{|\text{Aut}(D)|}$ .

**Proof of the Claim.** The group  $G_{m,l} := [(S_3)^m \times S_m] \times [(S_2)^l \times S_l]$  acts on the set of pairings, the action is transitive on the set of pairings  $P$  that produce a given  $D$ , and the stabilizer of any given  $P$  is  $\text{Aut}(D)$ .  $\square$

**Determinants.** Now suppose  $Q$  and  $P_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ) are  $d \times d$  matrices and  $Q$  is invertible. Then

$$|Q|^{-1} I_{\epsilon, \lambda_{ij}, \lambda_{ijk}, Q, P_i} = |Q|^{-1} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} e^{-\frac{1}{2}\lambda_{ij}x^i x^j + \frac{\epsilon}{6}\lambda_{ijk}x^i x^j x^k} \det(Q + \epsilon x^i P_i)$$

$$= \sum_{m, k \geq 0, \sigma \in S_k} \frac{C \epsilon^{m+k} (-)^\sigma}{6^m m! k!} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (\lambda_{ijk} x^i x^j x^k)^m \text{tr}(\sigma(x^i Q^{-1} P_i)^{\otimes k}) e^{-\frac{1}{2}\lambda_{ij}x^i x^j}$$

$$= \sum_{\text{fully marked Feynman diagrams}} \frac{C \epsilon^{m+k} (-)^\sigma}{6^m m! k!} \mathcal{E} \left( \text{Diagram with } \sigma \in S_k \right)$$

$$= \sum_{\text{Feynman diagrams}} C \epsilon^{m+k} (-)^k (-)^l \mathcal{E} \left( \text{Diagram with } l \text{ purple loops} \right)$$

where  $l$  is the number of purple (“Fermion”) loops.

**Ghosts.** Or else, introduce “ghosts”  $\bar{c}_a$  and  $c^b$ , write

$$I_{\epsilon, \lambda_{ij}, \lambda_{ijk}, Q, P_i} = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d} e^{-\frac{1}{2}\lambda_{ij}x^i x^j + \frac{\epsilon}{6}\lambda_{ijk}x^i x^j x^k + \bar{c}_a (Q_a^b + \epsilon x^i P_{ib}^a) c^b}$$

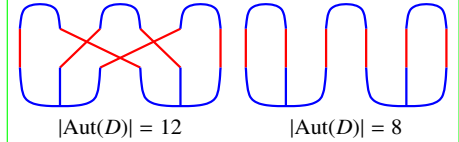
$\bar{c}$  and  $c$

and use “ordinary” perturbation theory.

## The Fourier Transform.

$(F: V \rightarrow \mathbb{C}) \Rightarrow (\tilde{f}: V^* \rightarrow \mathbb{C})$   
 via  $\tilde{F}(\varphi) := \int_V f(v) e^{-i\langle \varphi, v \rangle} dv$ . Some facts:  
 •  $\tilde{f}(0) = \int_V f(v) dv$ .  
 •  $\frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi_i} \tilde{f} \sim \tilde{v}^i f$ .  
 •  $(e^{Q/2}) \sim e^{Q^{-1}/2}$ , where  $Q$  is quadratic,  $Q(v) = \langle Lv, v \rangle$  for  $L: V \rightarrow V^*$ , and  $Q^{-1}(\varphi) := \langle \varphi, L^{-1}\varphi \rangle$ . (This is the key point in the proof of the Fourier inversion formula!)

### Examples.

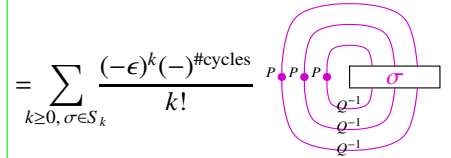


**Perturbing Determinants.** If  $Q$  and  $P$  are matrices and  $Q$  is invertible,

$$|Q|^{-1} |Q + \epsilon P| = |I + \epsilon Q^{-1} P|$$

$$= \sum_{k \geq 0} \epsilon^k \text{tr} \left( \bigwedge^k Q^{-1} P \right)$$

$$= \sum_{k \geq 0, \sigma \in S_k} \frac{\epsilon^k (-)^\sigma}{k!} \text{tr}(\sigma(Q^{-1} P)^{\otimes k})$$



**The Berezin Integral** (physics / math language, formulas from Wikipedia: Grassmann integral).

**The Berezin Integral** is linear on functions of anti-commuting variables, and satisfies  $\int d\theta = 1$ , and  $\int 1 d\theta = 0$ , so that  $\int \frac{\partial f(\theta)}{\partial \theta} d\theta = 0$ .

Let  $V$  be a vector space,  $\theta \in V$ ,  $d\theta \in V^*$  s.t.  $\langle d\theta, \theta \rangle = 1$ . Then  $f \mapsto \int f d\theta$  is the interior multiplication map  $\wedge V \rightarrow \wedge V$ :  $\int f d\theta := i_{d\theta}(f)$  ( $= \frac{\partial f}{\partial \theta}$ ).

Multiple integration via “Fubini”:  $\int f_1(\theta_1) \dots f_n(\theta_n) d\theta_1 \dots d\theta_n := (\int f_1 d\theta_1) \dots (\int f_n d\theta_n)$ .  $\int f d\theta_1 \dots d\theta_n := f \parallel i_{d\theta_1} \parallel \dots \parallel i_{d\theta_n}$ .

Change of variables. If  $\theta_i = \theta_i(\xi_j)$ , both  $\theta_i$  and  $\xi_j$  are odd, and  $J_{ij} := \partial \theta_i / \partial \xi_j$ , then

$$\int f(\theta_i) d\theta = \int f(\theta_i(\xi_j)) \det(J_{ij})^{-1} d\xi$$

Given vector spaces  $V_{\theta_i}$  and  $W_{\xi_j}$ ,  $d\theta = \wedge d\theta_i \in \wedge^{\text{top}}(V^*)$ ,  $d\xi = \wedge d\xi_j \in \wedge^{\text{top}}(W^*)$ , and  $T: V \rightarrow \wedge^{\text{odd}}(W)$ . Then  $T$  induces a map  $T_*: \wedge V \rightarrow \wedge W$  and then

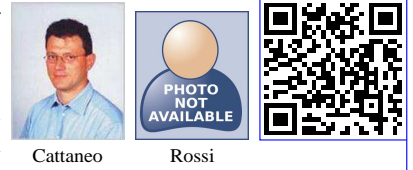
$$\int f d\theta = \int (T_* f) \det \left( \frac{\partial (T \theta_i)}{\partial \xi_j} \right)^{-1} d\xi$$

**Gaussian integration.** For an even matrix  $A$  and odd vectors  $\theta, \eta$ ,  $\int e^{\theta^T A \eta} d\theta d\eta = \det(A)$ ,  $\int e^{\theta^T A \eta + \theta^T J + K^T \eta} d\theta d\eta = \det(A) e^{-K^T A^{-1} J}$ .

# A Partial Reduction of BF Theory to Combinatorics, 1

**Abstract.** I will describe a **semi-rigorous** reduction of perturbative BF theory (Cattaneo-Rossi [CR]) to computable combinatorics, 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  $\Phi_e$  be its direction, in  $S^3$  or  $S^1$ . Let  $\omega_3$  and  $\omega_1$  be volume forms on  $S^3$  and  $S^1$ . Then for a 2-link  $(K_i)_{i \in T}$ ,



$$\zeta = \log \sum_{\text{diagrams } D} \frac{[D]}{|\text{Aut}(D)|} \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \dots \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^4} \dots \int_{\mathbb{R}^4} \prod_{e \in D} \Phi_e^* \omega_3 \prod_{e \in D} \Phi_e^* \omega_1$$

$S$ -vertices       $M$ -vertices

is an invariant in  $CW(FL(T)) \rightarrow CW(T)/\sim$ , "symmetrized cyclic words in  $T$ ".

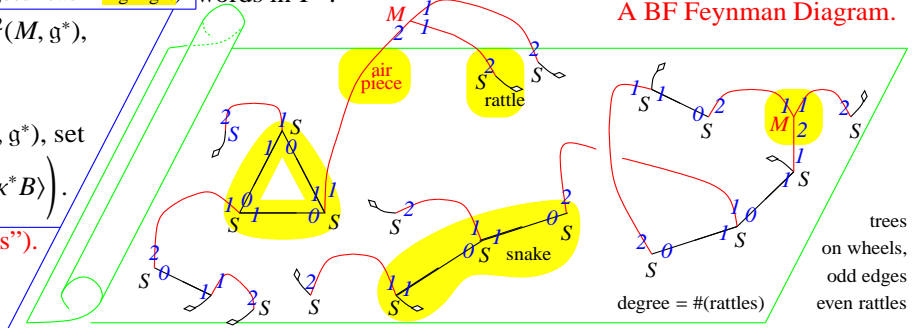
**BF Following [CR].**  $A \in \Omega^1(M = \mathbb{R}^4, \mathfrak{g})$ ,  $B \in \Omega^2(M, \mathfrak{g}^*)$ ,

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

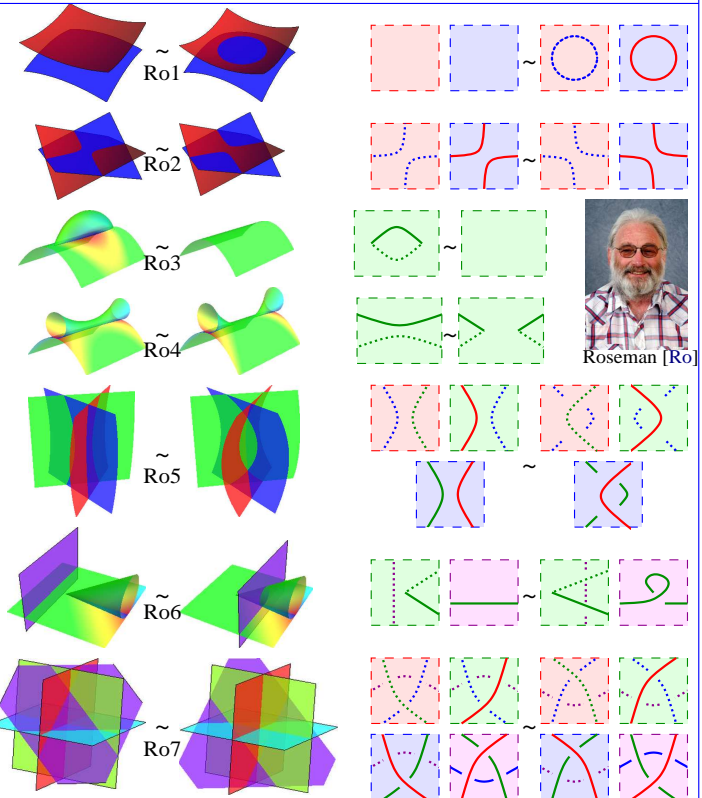
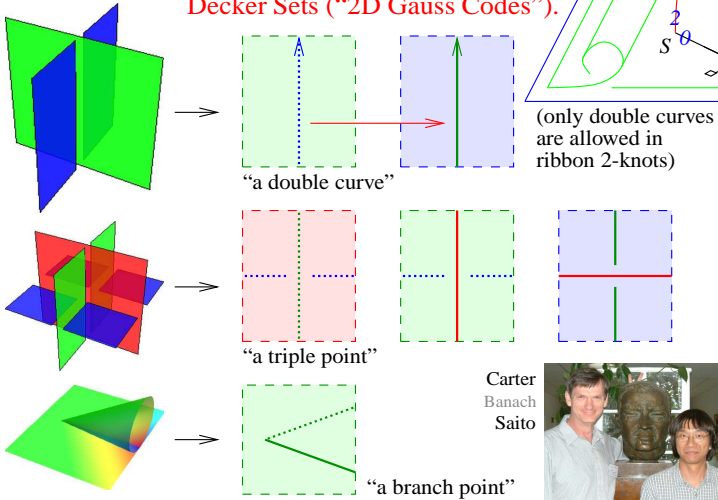
With  $\kappa: (S = \mathbb{R}^2) \rightarrow M$ ,  $\beta \in \Omega^0(S, \mathfrak{g})$ ,  $\alpha \in \Omega^1(S, \mathfrak{g}^*)$ , set

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

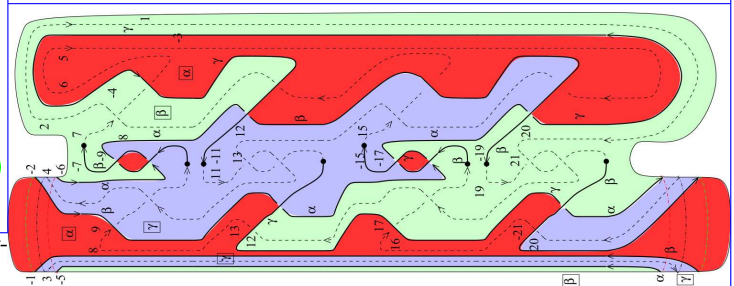
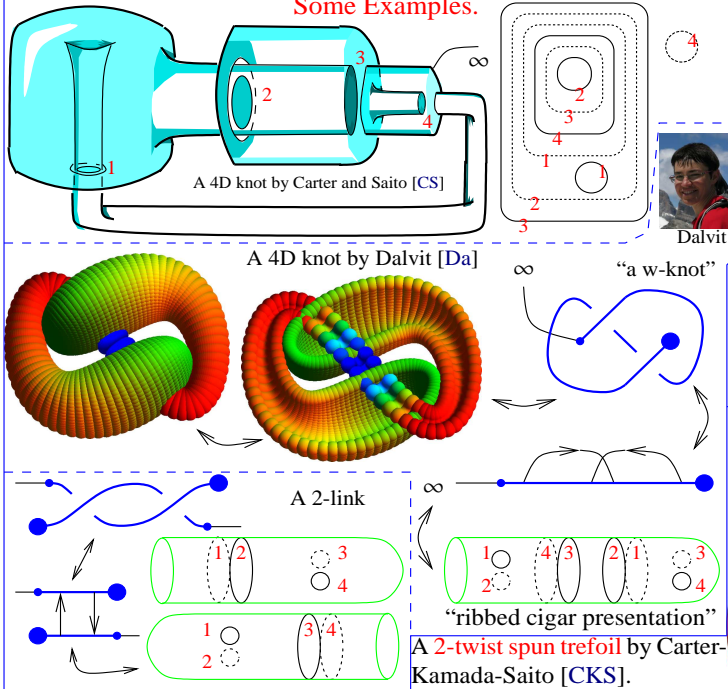
## A BF Feynman Diagram.



## Decker Sets ("2D Gauss Codes").

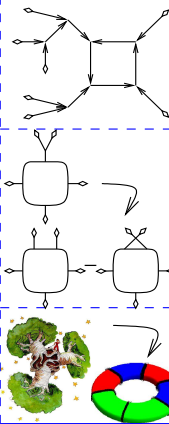
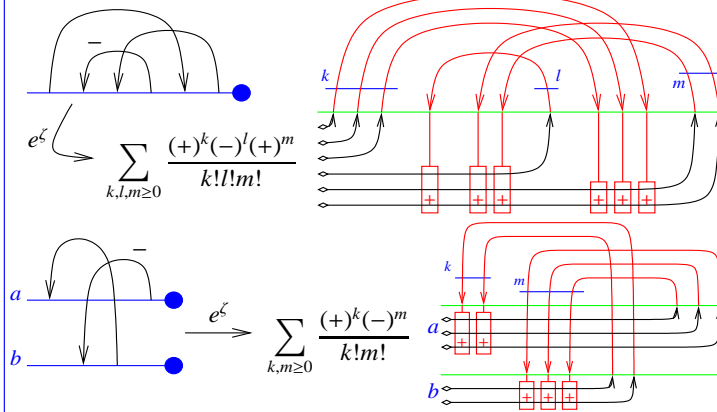


## Some Examples.

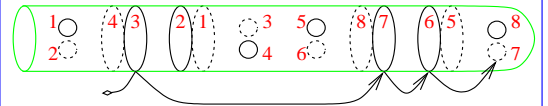


## A Partial Reduction of BF Theory to Combinatorics, 2

**Theorem 1 (with Cattaneo, Dalvit (credit, no blame)).** In the ribbon case,  $e^{\zeta}$  can be computed as follows:



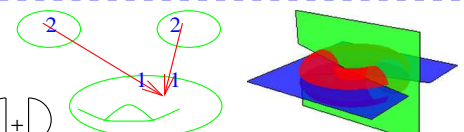
**Sketch of Proof.** In 4D axial gauge, only “drop down” red propagators, hence in the ribbon case, no  $M$ -trivalent vertices.  $S$  integrals are  $\pm 1$  iff “ground pieces” run on nested curves as below, and exponentials arise when several propagators compete for the same double curve. And then the combinatorics is obvious...



### Musings

**Chern-Simons.** When the domain of BF is restricted to ribbon knots, and the target of Chern-Simons is restricted to trees and wheels, they agree. Why?

**Is this all?** What about the  $\nu$ -invariant? (the “true” triple linking number)



**Theorem 2.** Using Gauss diagrams to represent knots and  $T$ -component pure tangles, the above formulas define an invariant in  $CW(FL(T)) \rightarrow CW(T)$ , “cyclic words in  $T$ ”.

- Agrees with BN-Dancso [BND] and with [BN2].
- In-practice computable!
- Vanishes on braids.
- Extends to w.
- Contains Alexander.
- The “missing factor” in Levine’s factorization [Le] (the rest of [Le] also fits, hence contains the MVA).
- Related to / extends Farber’s [Fa]?
- Should be summed and categorified.

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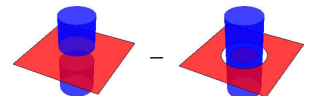
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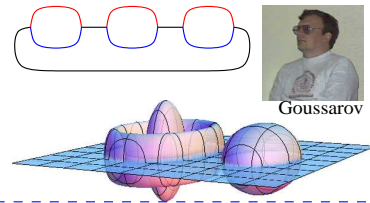
**Gnots.** In 3D, a generic immersion of  $S^1$  is an embedding, a knot. In 4D, a generic immersion of a surface has finitely-many double points (a gnot?). Perhaps we should be studying these?

**Finite type.** What are finite-type invariants for 2-knots? What would be “chord diagrams”?



**Bubble-wrap-finite-type.**

There’s an alternative definition of finite type in 3D, due to Goussarov (see [BN1]). The obvious parallel in 4D involves “bubble wraps”. Is it any good?



**Shielded tangles.** In 3D, one can’t zoom in and compute “the Chern-Simons invariant of a tangle”. Yet there are well-defined invariants of “shielded tangles”, and rules for their compositions. What would the 4D analog be?



Will the relationship with the Kashiwara-Vergne problem [BND] necessarily arise here?

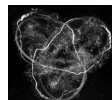
**Plane curves.** Shouldn’t we understand integral / finite type invariants of plane curves, in the style of Arnold’s  $J^+$ ,  $J^-$ , and  $St$  [Ar], a bit better?



	$a(\times)$	$a(\times)$	$a(\times)$	$\infty$	$\circ$	$\circ$	$\circ$	$\circ$	$\dots$
St	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	$\dots$
$J^+$	0	2	0	0	0	-2	-4	-6	$\dots$
$J^-$	0	0	-2	-1	0	-3	-6	-9	$\dots$

Continuing Joost Slingerland...

<http://youtu.be/YCA0VIExVhge>

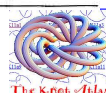


<http://youtu.be/mHyT0cfF990>



“God created the knots, all else in topology is the work of mortals.”

Leopold Kronecker (modified)



[www.katlas.org](http://www.katlas.org)

The Knot Atlas  
Joyces Car. Ed.

# What happens to a quantum particle on a pendulum at $T = \frac{\pi}{2}$ ?

**Abstract.** This subject is the best one-hour introduction I know for the mathematical techniques that appear in quantum mechanics — in one short lecture we start with a meaningful question, visit Schrödinger’s equation, operators and exponentiation of operators, Fourier analysis, path integrals, the least action principle, and Gaussian integration, and at the end we land with a meaningful and interesting answer.

Based a lecture given by the author in the “trivial notions” seminar in Harvard on April 29, 1989. This edition, January 10, 2014.

## 1. THE QUESTION

Let the complex valued function  $\psi = \psi(t, x)$  be a solution of the Schrödinger equation

$$\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} = -i \left( -\frac{1}{2} \Delta_x + \frac{1}{2} x^2 \right) \psi \quad \text{with} \quad \psi|_{t=0} = \psi_0.$$

What is  $\psi|_{t=T=\frac{\pi}{2}}$ ?

In fact, the major part of our discussion will work just as well for the general Schrödinger equation,

$$\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} = -iH\psi, \quad H = -\frac{1}{2} \Delta_x + V(x),$$

$$\psi|_{t=0} = \psi_0, \quad \text{arbitrary } T,$$

where,

- $\psi$  is the “wave function”, with  $|\psi(t, x)|^2$  representing the probability of finding our particle at time  $t$  in position  $x$ .
- $H$  is the “energy”, or the “Hamiltonian”.
- $-\frac{1}{2} \Delta_x$  is the “kinetic energy”.
- $V(x)$  is the “potential energy at  $x$ ”.

## 2. THE SOLUTION

The equation  $\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} = -iH\psi$  with  $\psi|_{t=0} = \psi_0$  formally implies

$$\psi(T, x) = (e^{-iTH} \psi_0)(x) = \left( e^{i\frac{T}{2} \Delta - iTV} \psi_0 \right)(x).$$

By Lemma 3.1 with  $n = 10^{58} + 17$  and setting  $x_n = x$  we find that  $\psi(T, x)$  is

$$\left( e^{i\frac{T}{2n} \Delta} e^{-i\frac{T}{n} V} e^{i\frac{T}{2n} \Delta} e^{-i\frac{T}{n} V} \dots e^{i\frac{T}{2n} \Delta} e^{-i\frac{T}{n} V} \psi_0 \right)(x_n).$$

Now using Lemmas 3.2 and 3.3 we find that this is: ( $c$  denotes the ever-changing universal fixed numerical constant)

$$c \int dx_{n-1} e^{i\frac{(x_n - x_{n-1})^2}{2T/n}} e^{-i\frac{T}{N} V(x_{n-1})} \dots$$

$$\int dx_1 e^{i\frac{(x_2 - x_1)^2}{2T/n}} e^{-i\frac{T}{N} V(x_1)}$$

$$\int dx_0 e^{i\frac{(x_1 - x_0)^2}{2T/n}} e^{-i\frac{T}{N} V(x_0)} \psi_0(x_0).$$

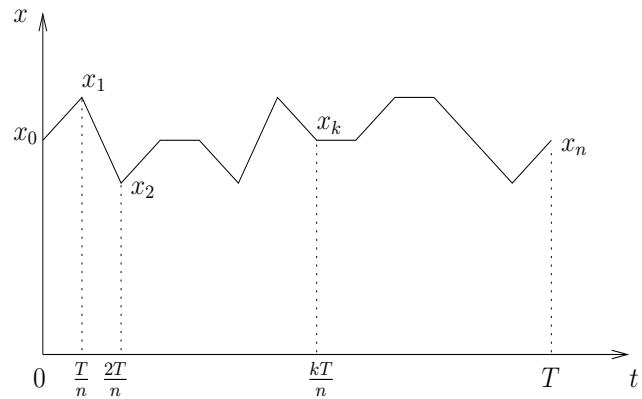
Repackaging, we get

$$c \int dx_0 \dots dx_{n-1}$$

$$\exp \left( i\frac{T}{2n} \sum_{k=1}^n \left( \frac{x_k - x_{k-1}}{T/n} \right)^2 - i\frac{T}{n} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} V(x_k) \right)$$

$$\psi_0(x_0).$$

Now comes the novelty. keeping in mind the picture



and replacing Riemann sums by integrals, we can write

$$\psi(T, x) = c \int dx_0 \int_{W_{x_0 x_n}} \mathcal{D}x$$

$$\exp \left( i \int_0^T dt \left( \frac{1}{2} \dot{x}^2(t) - V(x(t)) \right) \right) \psi_0(x_0),$$

where  $W_{x_0 x_n}$  denotes the space of paths that begin at  $x_0$  and end at  $x_n$ ,

$$W_{x_0 x_n} = \{x : [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbb{R} : x(0) = x_0, x(T) = x_n\},$$

and  $\mathcal{D}x$  is the formal “path integral measure”.

This is a good time to introduce the “action”  $\mathcal{L}$ :

$$\mathcal{L}(x) := \int_0^T dt \left( \frac{1}{2} \dot{x}^2(t) - V(x(t)) \right).$$

With this notation,

$$\psi(T, x) = c \int dx_0 \psi_0(x_0) \int_{W_{x_0 x_n}} \mathcal{D}x e^{i\mathcal{L}(x)}.$$

Let  $x_c$  denote the path on which  $\mathcal{L}(x)$  attains its minimum value, write  $x = x_c + x_q$  with  $x_q \in W_{00}$ , and get

$$\psi(T, x) = c \int dx_0 \psi_0(x_0) \int_{W_{00}} \mathcal{D}x_q e^{i\mathcal{L}(x_c+x_q)}.$$

In our particular case  $\mathcal{L}$  is quadratic in  $x$ , and therefore  $\mathcal{L}(x_c + x_q) = \mathcal{L}(x_c) + \mathcal{L}(x_q)$  (this uses the fact that  $x_c$  is an extremal of  $\mathcal{L}$ , of course). Plugging this into what we already have, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \psi(T, x) &= c \int dx_0 \psi_0(x_0) \int_{W_{00}} \mathcal{D}x_q e^{i\mathcal{L}(x_c)+i\mathcal{L}(x_q)} \\ &= c \int dx_0 \psi_0(x_0) e^{i\mathcal{L}(x_c)} \int_{W_{00}} \mathcal{D}x_q e^{i\mathcal{L}(x_q)}. \end{aligned}$$

Now this is excellent news, because the remaining path integral over  $W_{00}$  does not depend on  $x_0$  or  $x_n$ , and hence it is a constant! Allowing  $c$  to change its value from line to line, we get

$$\psi(T, x) = c \int dx_0 \psi_0(x_0) e^{i\mathcal{L}(x_c)}.$$

Lemma 3.4 now shows us that  $x_c(t) = x_0 \cos t + x_n \sin t$ . An easy explicit computation gives  $\mathcal{L}(x_c) = -x_0 x_n$ , and we arrive at our final result,

$$\psi\left(\frac{\pi}{2}, x\right) = c \int dx_0 \psi_0(x_0) e^{-ix_0 x_n}.$$

Notice that this is precisely the formula for the Fourier transform of  $\psi_0$ ! That is, the answer to the question in the title of this document is “the particle gets Fourier transformed”, whatever that may mean.

### 3. THE LEMMAS

**Lemma 3.1.** For any two matrices  $A$  and  $B$ ,

$$e^{A+B} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( e^{A/n} e^{B/n} \right)^n.$$

*Proof.* (sketch) Using Taylor expansions, we see that  $e^{\frac{A+B}{n}}$  and  $e^{A/n} e^{B/n}$  differ by terms at most proportional to  $c/n^2$ . Raising to the  $n$ th power, the two sides differ by at most  $O(1/n)$ , and thus

$$e^{A+B} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( e^{\frac{A+B}{n}} \right)^n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( e^{A/n} e^{B/n} \right)^n,$$

as required.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.2.**

$$\left( e^{itV} \psi_0 \right) (x) = e^{itV(x)} \psi_0(x).$$

**Lemma 3.3.**

$$\left( e^{i\frac{t}{2}\Delta} \psi_0 \right) (x) = c \int dx' e^{i\frac{(x-x')^2}{2t}} \psi_0(x').$$

*Proof.* In fact, the left hand side of this equality is just a solution  $\psi(t, x)$  of Schrödinger’s equation with  $V = 0$ :

$$\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} = \frac{i}{2} \Delta_x \psi, \quad \psi|_{t=0} = \psi_0.$$

Taking the Fourier transform  $\tilde{\psi}(t, p) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int e^{-ipx} \psi(t, x) dx$ , we get the equation

$$\frac{\partial \tilde{\psi}}{\partial t} = -i\frac{p^2}{2} \tilde{\psi}, \quad \tilde{\psi}|_{t=0} = \tilde{\psi}_0.$$

For a fixed  $p$ , this is a simple first order linear differential equation with respect to  $t$ , and thus,

$$\tilde{\psi}(t, p) = e^{-i\frac{tp^2}{2}} \tilde{\psi}_0(p).$$

Taking the inverse Fourier transform, which takes products to convolutions and Gaussians to other Gaussians, we get what we wanted to prove.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.4.** With the notation of Section 2 and at the specific case of  $V(x) = \frac{1}{2}x^2$  and  $T = \frac{\pi}{2}$ , we have

$$x_c(t) = x_0 \cos t + x_n \sin t.$$

*Proof.* If  $x_c$  is a critical point of  $\mathcal{L}$  on  $W_{x_0 x_n}$ , then for any  $x_q \in W_{00}$  there should be no term in  $\mathcal{L}(x_c + \epsilon x_q)$  which is linear in  $\epsilon$ . Now recall that

$$\mathcal{L}(x) = \int_0^T dt \left( \frac{1}{2} \dot{x}^2(t) - V(x(t)) \right),$$

so using  $V(x_c + \epsilon x_q) \sim V(x_c) + \epsilon x_q V'(x_c)$  we find that the linear term in  $\epsilon$  in  $\mathcal{L}(x_c + \epsilon x_q)$  is

$$\int_0^T dt (\dot{x}_c \dot{x}_q - V'(x_c) x_q).$$

Integrating by parts and using  $x_q(0) = x_q(T) = 0$ , this becomes

$$\int_0^T dt (-\ddot{x}_c - V'(x_c)) x_q.$$

For this integral to vanish independently of  $x_q$ , we must have  $-\ddot{x}_c - V'(x_c) \equiv 0$ , or

$$\ddot{x}_c = -V'(x_c). \quad \left( \begin{array}{l} \text{This is the famous } F = ma \\ \text{of Newton's, and we have just} \\ \text{rediscovered the principle of} \\ \text{least action!} \end{array} \right)$$

In our particular case this boils down to the equation

$$\ddot{x}_c = -x_c, \quad x_c(0) = x_0, \quad x_c(\pi/2) = x_n,$$

whose unique solution is displayed in the statement of this lemma.  $\square$

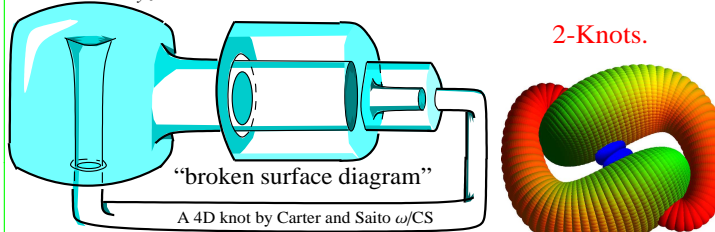
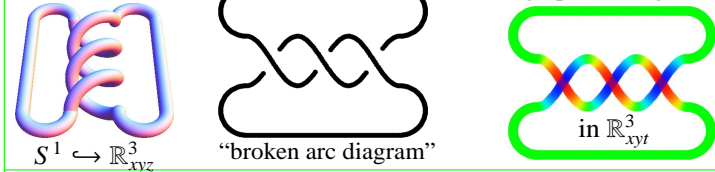




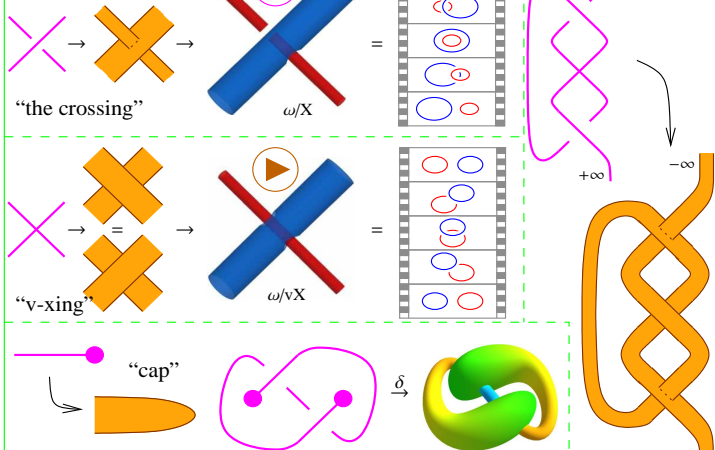
# Knots in Four Dimensions and the Simplest Open Problem About Them

**Abstract.** I will describe a few 2-dimensional knots in 4 dimensional space in detail, then tell you how to make many more, then tell you that I don't really understand my way of making them, yet I can tell at least some of them apart in a colourful way.

## u-Knots.

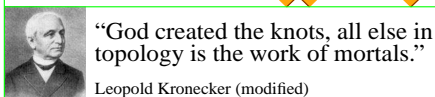
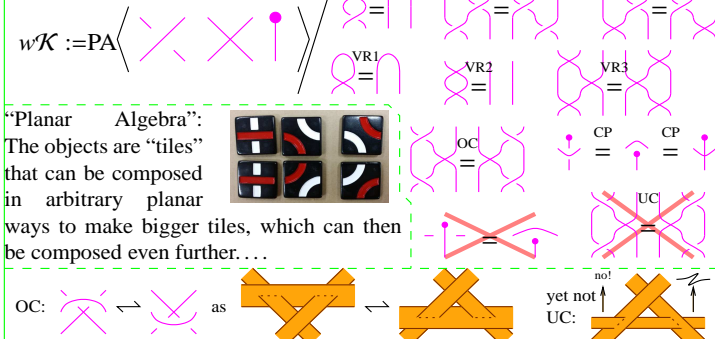


## The Generators



## The Double Inflation Procedure $\delta$ .

## w-Knots.



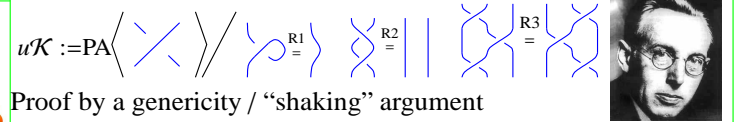
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**Satoh's Conjecture.** ( $\omega$ /Sat) The "kernel" of the double inflation map  $\delta$ , mapping w-knot diagrams in the plane to knotted 2D tubes and spheres in 4D, is precisely the moves R2-3, VR1-3, M, CP and OC listed above. In other words, two w-knot diagrams represent via  $\delta$  the same 2D knot in 4D iff they differ by a sequence of the said moves.

**First Isomorphism Thm:**  $\delta: G \rightarrow H \Rightarrow \text{im } \delta \cong G / \ker(\delta)$   
 $\delta$  is a map from algebra to topology. So a thing in "hard" topology ( $\text{im } \delta$ ) is the same as a thing in "easy" algebra ( $w\mathcal{K}$ ).

## Reidemeister's Theorem.

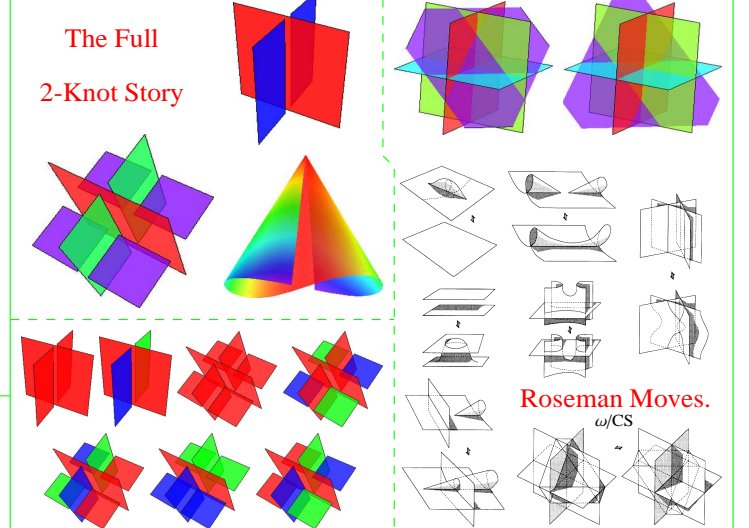


Proof by a genericity / "shaking" argument

**3-Colourings.** Colour the arcs of a broken arc diagram in RGB so that every crossing is either mono-chromatic or tri-chromatic;  $\lambda(K) := |\{3\text{-colourings}\}|$ .  
good good bad

**Example.**  $\lambda(\bigcirc) = 3$  while  $\lambda(\bigoplus) = 9$ ; so  $\bigcirc \neq \bigoplus$ .  
**Exercise.** Show that the set of colourings of  $K$  is a vector space over  $\mathbb{F}_3$  hence  $\lambda(K)$  is always a power of 3.

**Extend  $\lambda$  to  $w\mathcal{K}$**  by declaring that arcs "don't see" v-xings, and that caps are always "kosher". Then  $\lambda(\bullet\text{---}\bullet) = 3 \neq 9 = \lambda(\text{CS 2-knot})$ , so assuming Conjecture, the CS 2-knot is indeed knotted.

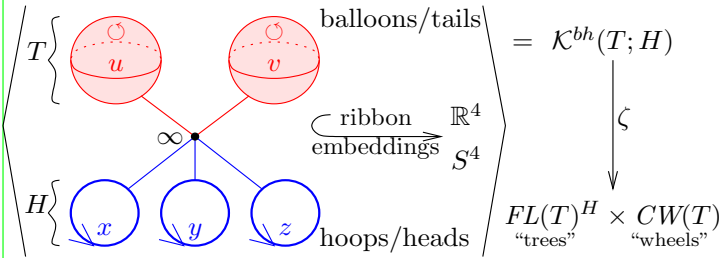


**Expansions.** Given a "ring"  $K$  and an ideal  $I \subset K$ , set  $A := I^0/I^1 \oplus I^1/I^2 \oplus I^2/I^3 \oplus \dots$ .  
A homomorphic expansion is a multiplicative  $Z: K \rightarrow A$  such that if  $\gamma \in I^m$ , then  $Z(\gamma) = (0, 0, \dots, 0, \gamma/I^{m+1}, *, *, \dots)$ .  
**Example.** Let  $K = C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$  be smooth functions on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , and  $I := \{f \in K: f(0) = 0\}$ . Then  $I^m = \{f: f \text{ vanishes as } |x|^m\}$  and  $I^m/I^{m+1}$  is {homogeneous polynomials of degree  $m$ } and  $A$  is the set of power series. So  $Z$  is "a Taylor expansion".  
Hence Taylor expansions are vastly general; even knots can be Taylor expanded!

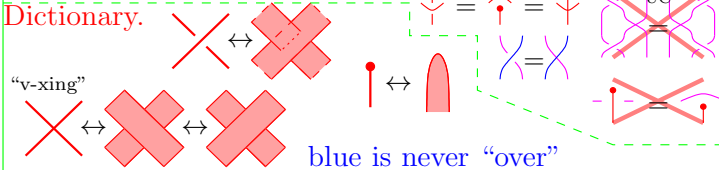
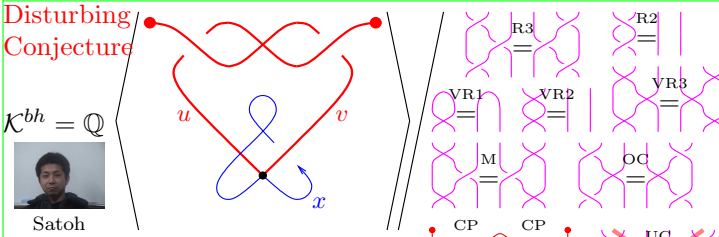


# Finite Type Invariants of Ribbon Knotted Balloons and Hoops

**Abstract.** On my September 17 Geneva talk ( $\omega/\text{sep}$ ) I described a certain trees-and-wheels-valued invariant  $\zeta$  of ribbon knotted loops and 2-spheres in 4-space, and my October 8 Geneva talk ( $\omega/\text{oct}$ ) describes its reduction to the Alexander polynomial. Today I will explain how that same invariant arises completely naturally within the theory of finite type invariants of ribbon knotted loops and 2-spheres in 4-space.



My goal is to tell you why such an invariant is expected, yet not to derive the computable formulas.



**Expansions**  
the semi-virtual  $\otimes := \begin{matrix} \diagup \\ \diagdown \end{matrix} - \begin{matrix} \diagdown \\ \diagup \end{matrix}$  i.e.  $\begin{matrix} \diagup \\ \diagdown \end{matrix} - \begin{matrix} \diagdown \\ \diagup \end{matrix}$  or  $\begin{matrix} \diagdown \\ \diagup \end{matrix} - \begin{matrix} \diagup \\ \diagdown \end{matrix}$

Let  $\mathcal{I}^n := \langle \text{pictures with } \geq n \text{ semi-virts} \rangle \subset \mathcal{K}^{bh}$ .  
We seek an "expansion"

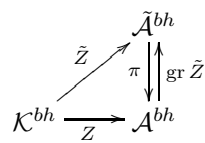
$$Z: \mathcal{K}^{bh} \rightarrow \text{gr } \mathcal{K}^{bh} = \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} \mathcal{I}^n / \mathcal{I}^{n+1} =: \mathcal{A}^{bh}$$

satisfying "property U": if  $\gamma \in \mathcal{I}^n$ , then  $Z(\gamma) = (0, \dots, 0, \gamma / \mathcal{I}^{n+1}, *, *, \dots)$ .



**Why?** • Just because, and this is vastly more general.  
•  $(\mathcal{K}^{bh} / \mathcal{I}^{n+1})^*$  is "finite-type/polynomial invariants".  
• The Taylor example: Take  $\mathcal{K} = C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$ ,  $\mathcal{I} = \{f \in \mathcal{K} : f(0) = 0\}$ . Then  $\mathcal{I}^n = \{f : f \text{ vanishes like } |x|^n\}$  so  $\mathcal{I}^n / \mathcal{I}^{n+1}$  is homogeneous polynomials of degree  $n$  and  $Z$  is a "Taylor expansion"! (So Taylor expansions are vastly more general than you'd think).

**Plan.** We'll construct a graded  $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}^{bh}$ , a surjective graded  $\pi: \tilde{\mathcal{A}}^{bh} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}^{bh}$ , and a filtered  $\tilde{Z}: \mathcal{K}^{bh} \rightarrow \tilde{\mathcal{A}}^{bh}$  so that  $\pi \parallel \text{gr } \tilde{Z} = Id$  (property U: if  $\deg D = n$ ,  $\tilde{Z}(\pi(D)) = \pi(D) + (\deg \geq n)$ ). Hence •  $\pi$  is an isomorphism. •  $Z := \tilde{Z} \parallel \pi$  is an expansion.



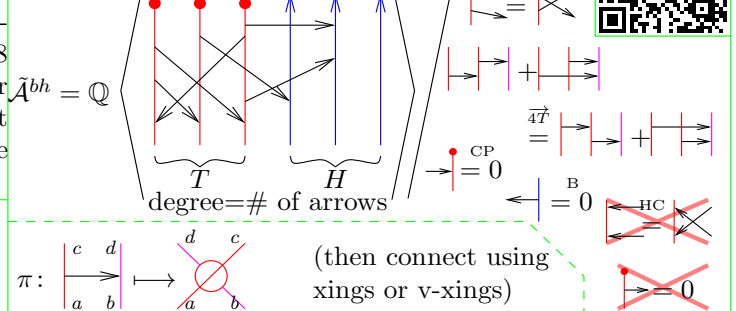
"God created the knots, all else in topology is the work of mortals."

Leopold Kronecker (modified)

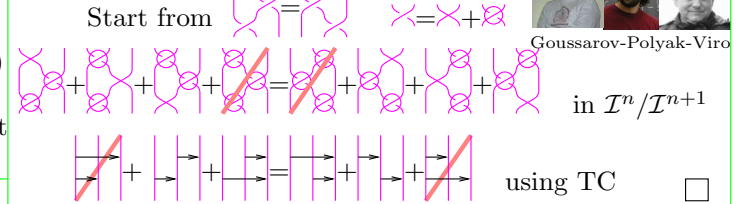
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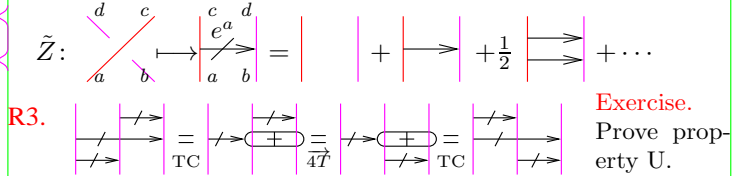
## Action 1.



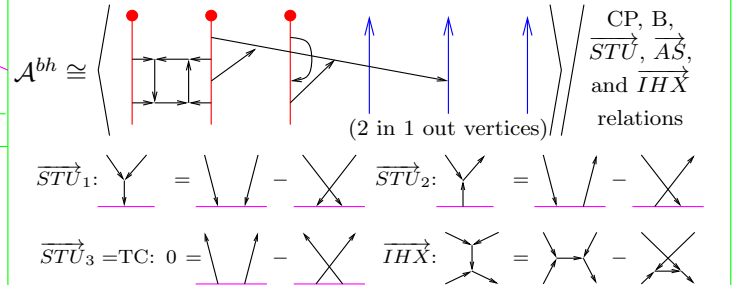
## Deriving 4T.



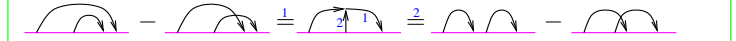
## Action 2.



## The Bracket-Rise Theorem.



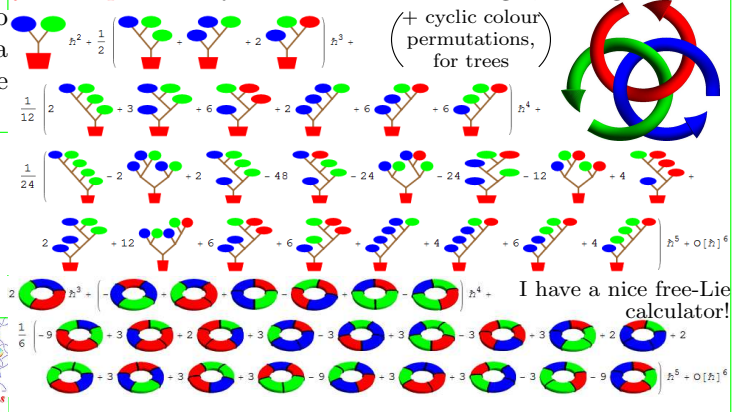
## Proof.



**Corollaries.** (1) Related to Lie algebras! (2) Only trees and wheels persist.

**Theorem.**  $\mathcal{A}^{bh}$  is a bi-algebra. The space of its primitives is  $FL(T)^H \times CW(T)$ , and  $\zeta = \log Z$ .

$\zeta$  is computable!  $\zeta$  of the Borromean tangle, to degree 5:



# Trees and Wheels and Balloons and Hoops

Dror Bar-Natan, Zurich, September 2013

$\omega\epsilon\beta := \text{http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Talks/Zurich-130919}$



## 15 Minutes on Algebra

Let  $T$  be a finite set of “tail labels” and  $H$  a finite set of “head labels”. Set

$$M_{1/2}(T; H) := FL(T)^H,$$

“ $H$ -labeled lists of elements of the degree-completed free Lie algebra generated by  $T$ ”.

$$FL(T) = \left\{ 2t_2 - \frac{1}{2}[t_1, [t_1, t_2]] + \dots \right\} / \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{anti-symmetry} \\ \text{Jacobi} \end{array} \right) \dots \text{with the obvious bracket.}$$

$$M_{1/2}(u, v; x, y) = \left\{ \lambda = \left( x \rightarrow \begin{array}{c} u \\ \swarrow \searrow \\ v \end{array}, y \rightarrow \begin{array}{c} v \\ \swarrow \searrow \\ u \end{array} - \frac{22}{7} \begin{array}{c} u \\ \swarrow \searrow \\ v \end{array} \right) \dots \right\}$$

## Operations $M_{1/2} \rightarrow M_{1/2}$ .

**Tail Multiply**  $tm_w^{uv}$  is  $\lambda \mapsto \lambda \parallel (u, v \rightarrow w)$ , satisfies “meta-associativity”,  $tm_u^{uv} \parallel tm_u^{uv} = tm_v^{uv} \parallel tm_u^{uv}$ .

**Head Multiply**  $hm_z^{xy}$  is  $\lambda \mapsto (\lambda \setminus \{x, y\}) \cup (z \rightarrow \text{bch}(\lambda_x, \lambda_y))$ , where

$$\text{bch}(\alpha, \beta) := \log(e^\alpha e^\beta) = \alpha + \beta + \frac{[\alpha, \beta]}{2} + \frac{[\alpha, [\alpha, \beta]] + [[\alpha, \beta], \beta]}{12} + \dots$$

satisfies  $\text{bch}(\text{bch}(\alpha, \beta), \gamma) = \log(e^{\alpha e^\beta e^\gamma}) = \text{bch}(\alpha, \text{bch}(\beta, \gamma))$  and hence meta-associativity,  $hm_x^{xy} \parallel hm_x^{xz} = hm_y^{yz} \parallel hm_x^{xy}$ .

**Tail by Head Action**  $tha^{ux}$  is  $\lambda \mapsto \lambda \parallel RC_u^{\lambda_x}$ , where  $C_u^{-\gamma}: FL \rightarrow FL$  is the substitution  $u \rightarrow e^{-\gamma} u e^\gamma$ , or more precisely,

$$C_u^{-\gamma}: u \rightarrow e^{-\text{ad} \gamma}(u) = u - [\gamma, u] + \frac{1}{2}[\gamma, [\gamma, u]] - \dots,$$

and  $RC_u^\gamma = (C_u^{-\gamma})^{-1}$ . Then  $C_u^{\text{bch}(\alpha, \beta)} = C_u^\alpha \parallel RC_u^{-\beta} \parallel C_u^\beta$  hence  $RC_u^{\text{bch}(\alpha, \beta)} = RC_u^\alpha \parallel RC_u^\beta \parallel RC_u^\alpha$  hence “meta  $u^{xy} = (u^x)^y$ ”,

$$hm_z^{xy} \parallel tha^{uz} = tha^{ux} \parallel tha^{uy} \parallel hm_z^{xy},$$

and  $tm_w^{uv} \parallel C_w^\gamma \parallel tm_w^{uv} = C_w^\gamma \parallel RC_w^{-\gamma} \parallel C_w^\gamma \parallel tm_w^{uv}$  and hence “meta  $(uv)^x = u^x v^x$ ”,  $tm_w^{uv} \parallel tha^{wx} = tha^{ux} \parallel tha^{vx} \parallel tm_w^{uv}$ .

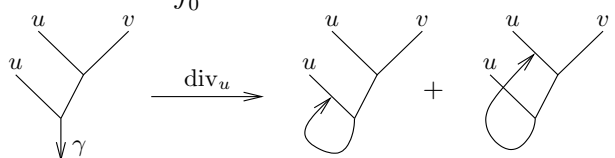
**Wheels.** Let  $M(T; H) := M_{1/2}(T; H) \times CW(T)$ , where  $CW(T)$  is the (completed graded) vector space of cyclic words on  $T$ , or equally well, on  $FL(T)$ :



**Operations.** On  $M(T; H)$ , define  $tm_w^{uv}$  and  $hm_z^{xy}$  as before, and  $tha^{ux}$  by adding some  $J$ -spice:

$$(\lambda; \omega) \mapsto (\lambda, \omega + J_u(\lambda_x)) \parallel RC_u^{\lambda_x},$$

where  $J_u(\gamma) := \int_0^1 ds \text{div}_u(\gamma \parallel RC_u^{s\gamma}) \parallel C_u^{-s\gamma}$ , and

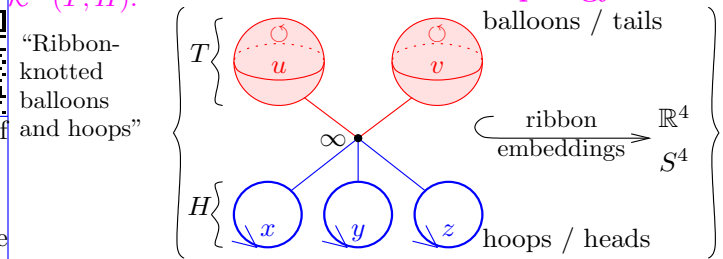


**Theorem Blue.** All blue identities still hold.

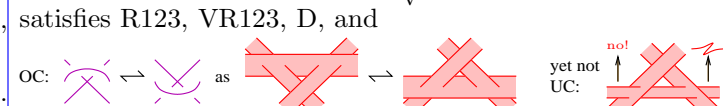
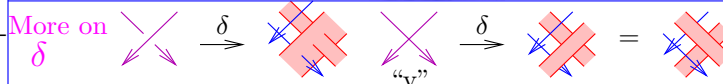
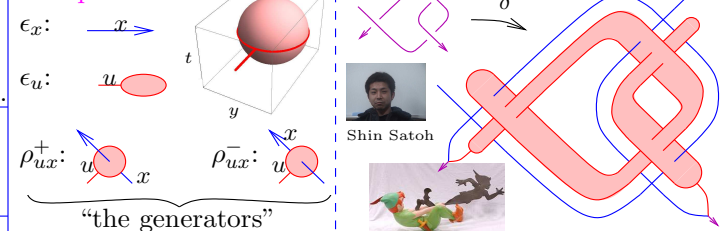
**Merge Operation.**  $(\lambda_1; \omega_1) * (\lambda_2; \omega_2) := (\lambda_1 \cup \lambda_2; \omega_1 + \omega_2)$ .

$\mathcal{K}^{bh}(T; H)$ .

## 15 Minutes on Topology



## Examples.



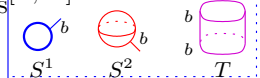
- $\delta$  injects u-knots into  $\mathcal{K}^{bh}$  (likely u-tangles too).
- $\delta$  maps v-tangles to  $\mathcal{K}^{bh}$ ; the kernel contains the above and conjecturally (Satoh), that's all.
- Allowing punctures and cuts,  $\delta$  is onto.

## Operations

**Punctures & Cuts** **Connected Sums.**  $\left( \begin{array}{c} \text{balloon} \\ \text{hoop} \end{array} \right) * \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{balloon} \\ \text{hoop} \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{two balloons} \\ \text{two hoops} \end{array} \right)$

If  $X$  is a space,  $\pi_1(X)$  is a group,  $\pi_2(X)$  is an Abelian group, and  $\pi_1$  acts on  $\pi_2$ .

**Riddle.** People often study  $\pi_1(X) = [S^1, X]$  and  $\pi_2(X) = [S^2, X]$ . Why not  $\pi_T(X) := [T, X]$ ?

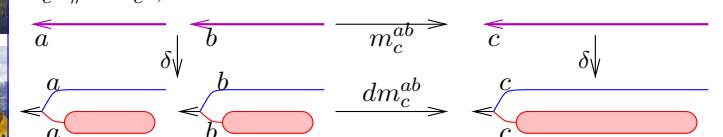


## “Meta-Group-Action”

$K: \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{balloon} \\ \text{hoop} \end{array} \right) \parallel tm_w^{uv} \rightarrow \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{two balloons} \\ \text{two hoops} \end{array} \right)$

- Associativities:  $m_a^{ab} \parallel m_a^{ac} = m_b^{bc} \parallel m_a^{ab}$ , for  $m = tm, hm$ .
- “(uv)<sup>x</sup> = u<sup>x</sup>v<sup>x</sup>”:  $tm_w^{uv} \parallel tha^{wx} = tha^{ux} \parallel tha^{vx} \parallel tm_w^{uv}$ .
- “(xy)<sup>z</sup> = (x<sup>z</sup>)<sup>y</sup>”:  $hm_z^{xy} \parallel tha^{uz} = tha^{ux} \parallel tha^{uy} \parallel hm_z^{xy}$ .

**Tangle concatenations**  $\rightarrow \pi_1 \times \pi_2$ . With  $dm_c^{ab} := tha^{ab} \parallel tm_c^{ab} \parallel hm_c^{ab}$ ,



**Finite type invariants** make sense in the usual way, and “algebra” is (the primitive part of) “gr” of “topology”.

# Trees and Wheels and Balloons and Hoops: Why I Care

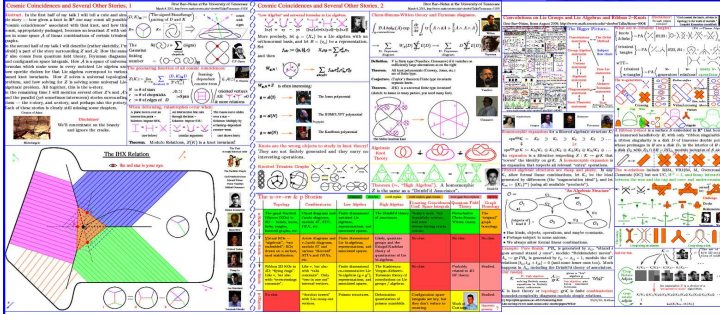
**Moral.** To construct an  $M$ -valued invariant  $\zeta$  of  $(v)$ -tangles, and nearly an invariant on  $\mathcal{K}^{bh}$ , it is enough to declare  $\zeta$  on the generators, and verify the relations that  $\delta$  satisfies.

**The Invariant  $\zeta$ .** Set  $\zeta(\epsilon_x) = (x \rightarrow 0; 0)$ ,  $\zeta(\epsilon_u) = ((); 0)$ , and

$$\zeta: \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 1} \\ \text{Diagram 2} \end{array} \mapsto \begin{array}{c} \left( \begin{array}{c} u \\ \downarrow \\ x \end{array}; 0 \right) \\ \left( - \begin{array}{c} u \\ \downarrow \\ x \end{array}; 0 \right) \end{array}$$

**Theorem.**  $\zeta$  is (log of) the unique homomorphic universal finite type invariant on  $\mathcal{K}^{bh}$ .  
 (... and is the tip of an iceberg)

Paper in progress with Dancso,  $\omega\epsilon\beta$ /wko



See also  $\omega\epsilon\beta$ /tenn,  $\omega\epsilon\beta$ /bonn,  $\omega\epsilon\beta$ /swiss,  $\omega\epsilon\beta$ /portfolio

$\zeta$  is computable!  $\zeta$  of the Borromean tangle, to degree 5:

(+ cyclic colour permutations, for trees)

I have a nice free-Lie calculator!

**Tensorial Interpretation.** Let  $\mathfrak{g}$  be a finite dimensional Lie algebra (any!). Then there's  $\tau : FL(T) \rightarrow \text{Fun}(\oplus_T \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{g})$  and  $\tau : CW(T) \rightarrow \text{Fun}(\oplus_T \mathfrak{g})$ . Together,  $\tau : M(T; H) \rightarrow \text{Fun}(\oplus_T \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \oplus_H \mathfrak{g})$ , and hence

$$e^\tau : M(T; H) \rightarrow \text{Fun}(\oplus_T \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathcal{U}^{\otimes H}(\mathfrak{g})).$$

**$\zeta$  and BF Theory.** (See Cattaneo-Rossi, arXiv:math-ph/0210037) Let  $A$  denote a  $\mathfrak{g}$ -connection on  $S^4$  with curvature  $F_A$ , and  $B$  a  $\mathfrak{g}^*$ -valued 2-form on  $S^4$ . For a hoop  $\gamma_x$ , let  $\text{hol}_{\gamma_x}(A) \in \mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g})$  be the holonomy of  $A$  along  $\gamma_x$ . For a ball  $\gamma_u$ , let  $\mathcal{O}_{\gamma_u}(B) \in \mathfrak{g}^*$  be (roughly) the integral of  $B$  (transported via  $A$  to  $\infty$ ) on  $\gamma_u$ .



**Loose Conjecture.** For  $\gamma \in \mathcal{K}(T; H)$ ,

$$\int \mathcal{D}A \mathcal{D}B e^{\int B \wedge F_A} \prod_u e^{\mathcal{O}_{\gamma_u}(B)} \bigotimes_x \text{hol}_{\gamma_x}(A) = e^\tau(\zeta(\gamma)).$$

That is,  $\zeta$  is a complete evaluation of the BF TQFT.



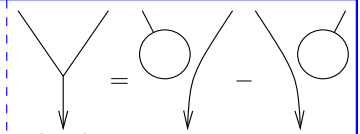
"God created the knots, all else in topology is the work of mortals."

Leopold Kronecker (modified)

www.katlas.org



The  $\beta$  quotient is  $M$  divided by all relations that universally hold when  $\mathfrak{g}$  is the 2D non-Abelian Lie algebra. Let  $R = \mathbb{Q}[\{c_u\}_{u \in T}]$  and  $L_\beta := R \otimes T$  with central  $R$  and with  $[u, v] = c_u v - c_v u$  for  $u, v \in T$ . Then  $FL \rightarrow L_\beta$  and  $CW \rightarrow R$ . Under this,



$$\mu \rightarrow ((\lambda_x); \omega) \quad \text{with } \lambda_x = \sum_{u \in T} \lambda_{ux} u x, \quad \lambda_{ux}, \omega \in R,$$

$$\text{bch}(u, v) \rightarrow \frac{c_u + c_v}{e^{c_u + c_v} - 1} \left( \frac{e^{c_u} - 1}{c_u} u + e^{c_u} \frac{e^{c_v} - 1}{c_v} v \right),$$

if  $\gamma = \sum \gamma_v v$  then with  $c_\gamma := \sum \gamma_v c_v$ ,

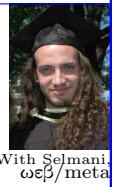
$$u \parallel RC_u^\gamma = \left( 1 + c_u \gamma u \frac{e^{c_\gamma} - 1}{c_\gamma} \right)^{-1} \left( e^{c_\gamma} u - c_u \frac{e^{c_\gamma} - 1}{c_\gamma} \sum_{v \neq u} \gamma_v v \right),$$

$\text{div}_u \gamma = c_u \gamma_u$ , and  $J_u(\gamma) = \log \left( 1 + \frac{e^{c_\gamma} - 1}{c_\gamma} c_u \gamma_u \right)$ , so  $\zeta$  is formula-computable to all orders! Can we simplify?

**Repackaging.** Given  $((x \rightarrow \lambda_{ux}); \omega)$ , set  $c_x := \sum_v c_v \lambda_{vx}$ , replace  $\lambda_{ux} \rightarrow \alpha_{ux} := c_u \lambda_{ux} \frac{e^{c_x} - 1}{c_x}$  and  $\omega \rightarrow e^\omega$ , use  $t_u = e^{c_u}$ , and write  $\alpha_{ux}$  as a matrix. Get " $\beta$  calculus".

**$\beta$  Calculus.** Let  $\beta(T; H)$  be

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{c|ccc|} \omega & x & y & \cdots \\ \hline u & \alpha_{ux} & \alpha_{uy} & \cdot \\ v & \alpha_{vx} & \alpha_{vy} & \cdot \\ \vdots & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{array} \middle| \begin{array}{l} \omega \text{ and the } \alpha_{ux} \text{'s are} \\ \text{rational functions in} \\ \text{variables } t_u, \text{ one for} \\ \text{each } u \in T. \end{array} \right\},$$



$$tm_w^{uv} : \begin{array}{c|c} \omega & \cdots \\ \hline u & \alpha \\ v & \beta \\ \vdots & \gamma \end{array} \mapsto \begin{array}{c|c} \omega & \cdots \\ \hline w & \alpha + \beta \\ \vdots & \gamma \end{array}, \quad \begin{array}{c|c} \omega_1 & H_1 \\ \hline T_1 & \alpha_1 \end{array} * \begin{array}{c|c} \omega_2 & H_2 \\ \hline T_2 & \alpha_2 \end{array} = \begin{array}{c|cc} \omega_1 \omega_2 & H_1 & H_2 \\ \hline T_1 & \alpha_1 & 0 \\ T_2 & 0 & \alpha_2 \end{array},$$

$$hm_z^{xy} : \begin{array}{c|ccc} \omega & x & y & \cdots \\ \hline \vdots & \alpha & \beta & \gamma \end{array} \mapsto \begin{array}{c|c} \omega & z \\ \hline \vdots & \alpha + \beta + \langle \alpha \rangle \beta \\ \vdots & \gamma \end{array},$$

$$tha^{ux} : \begin{array}{c|cc} \omega & x & \cdots \\ \hline u & \alpha & \beta \\ \vdots & \gamma & \delta \end{array} \mapsto \begin{array}{c|c} \omega \epsilon & x \\ \hline u & \alpha(1 + \langle \gamma \rangle / \epsilon) \\ \vdots & \gamma / \epsilon \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c|c} \omega \epsilon & \cdots \\ \hline \beta(1 + \langle \gamma \rangle / \epsilon) \\ \delta - \gamma \beta / \epsilon \end{array},$$

where  $\epsilon := 1 + \alpha$ ,  $\langle \alpha \rangle := \sum_v \alpha_v$ , and  $\langle \gamma \rangle := \sum_{v \neq u} \gamma_v$ , and let

$$R_{ux}^+ := \frac{1}{u} \left| \begin{array}{c} x \\ t_u - 1 \end{array} \right. \quad R_{ux}^- := \frac{1}{u} \left| \begin{array}{c} x \\ t_u^{-1} - 1 \end{array} \right.$$

On long knots,  $\omega$  is the Alexander polynomial!

**Why happy?** An ultimate Alexander invariant: Manifestly polynomial (time and size) extension of the (multivariable) Alexander polynomial to tangles. Every step of the computation is the computation of the invariant of some topological thing (no fishy Gaussian elimination). If there should be an Alexander invariant with a computable algebraic categorification, it is this one!



See also  $\omega\epsilon\beta$ /regina,  $\omega\epsilon\beta$ /caen,  $\omega\epsilon\beta$ /newton.

May class:  $\omega\epsilon\beta$ /aarhus

Class next year:  $\omega\epsilon\beta$ /1350

Paper:  $\omega\epsilon\beta$ /kbh

# Meta-Groups, Meta-Bicrossed-Products, and the Alexander Polynomial, 1

Dror Bar-Natan at Sheffield, February 2013.

<http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Talks/Sheffield-130206/>



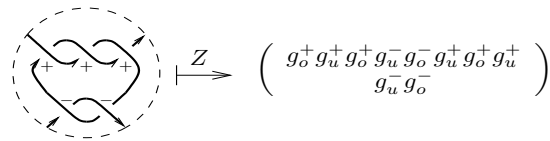
**Abstract.** I will define “meta-groups” and explain how one specific meta-group, which in itself is a “meta-bicrossed-product”, gives rise to an “ultimate Alexander invariant” of tangles, that contains the Alexander polynomial (multivariable, if you wish), has extremely good composition properties, is evaluated in a topologically meaningful way, and is least-wasteful in a computational sense. If you believe in categorification, that’s a wonderful playground.

This work is closely related to work by Le Dimet (Comment. Math. Helv. **67** (1992) 306–315), Kirk, Livingston and Wang (arXiv:math/9806035) and Cimasoni and Turaev (arXiv:math.GT/0406269).

## Alexander Issues.

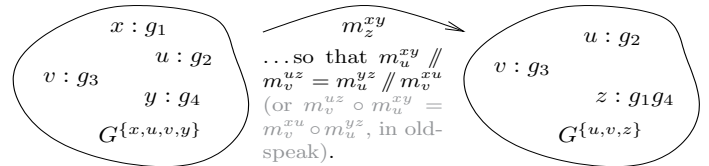
- Quick to compute, but computation departs from topology.
- Extends to tangles, but at an exponential cost.
- Hard to categorify.

**Idea.** Given a group  $G$  and two “YB” pairs  $R^\pm = (g_o^\pm, g_u^\pm) \in G^2$ , map them to xings and “multiply along”, so that

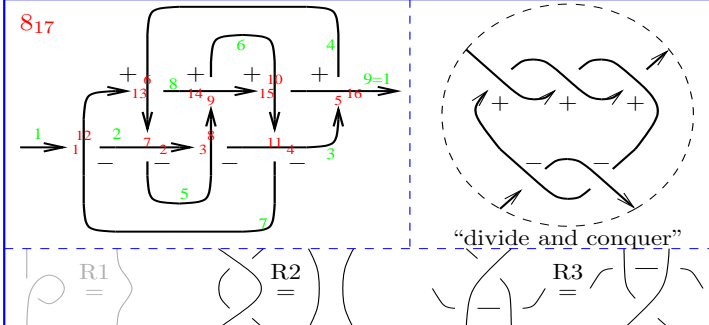
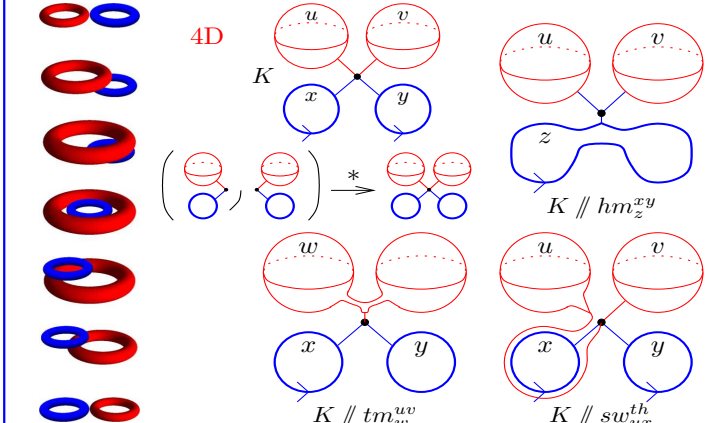


**This Fails!** R2 implies that  $g_o^\pm g_o^\mp = e = g_u^\pm g_u^\mp$  and then R3 implies that  $g_o^+$  and  $g_u^+$  commute, so the result is a simple counting invariant.

**A Group Computer.** Given  $G$ , can store group elements and perform operations on them:



Also has  $S_x$  for inversion,  $e_x$  for unit insertion,  $d_x$  for register deletion,  $\Delta_{xy}^z$  for element cloning,  $\rho_y^x$  for renamings, and  $(D_1, D_2) \mapsto D_1 \cup D_2$  for merging, and many obvious composition axioms relating those.

$$P = \{x : g_1, y : g_2\} \Rightarrow P = \{d_y P\} \cup \{d_x P\}$$


**A Standard Alexander Formula.** Label the arcs 1 through  $(n+1) = 1$ , make an  $n \times n$  matrix as below, delete one row and one column, and compute the determinant:

$$\rightarrow \begin{vmatrix} a & b & c \\ c & -1 & 1-X \\ a & 1-X & X \end{vmatrix}$$

$$\rightarrow \begin{vmatrix} a & b & c \\ c & -X & X-1 \\ a & X-1 & 1 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & x-1 & 0 & -x \\ -1 & x & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1-x & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & x & 0 & 1-x & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ x-1 & 0 & -x & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1-x & 0 & -1 & x & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -x & 1 & 0 & x-1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1-x & 0 & 0 & -1 & x & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & x-1 & 0 & 0 & -x & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad [ [ 1 \ ; \ 7, 1 \ ; \ 7 ] ] \ // \ Det$$

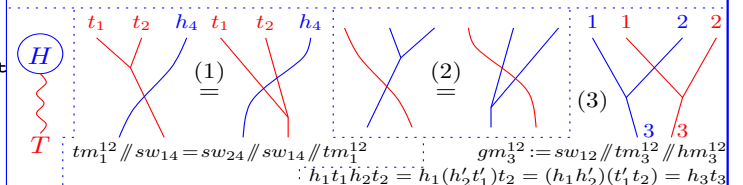
$$-1 + 4x - 8x^2 + 11x^3 - 8x^4 + 4x^5 - x^6$$

**A Meta-Group.** Is a similar “computer”, only its internal structure is unknown to us. Namely it is a collection of sets  $\{G_\gamma\}$  indexed by all finite sets  $\gamma$ , and a collection of operations  $m_z^{xy}$ ,  $S_x$ ,  $e_x$ ,  $d_x$ ,  $\Delta_{xy}^z$  (sometimes),  $\rho_y^x$ , and  $\cup$ , satisfying the exact same linear properties.

**Example 0.** The non-meta example,  $G_\gamma := G^\gamma$ .  
**Example 1.**  $G_\gamma := M_{\gamma \times \gamma}(\mathbb{Z})$ , with simultaneous row and column operations, and “block diagonal” merges. Here if  $P = \begin{pmatrix} x & a & b \\ y & c & d \end{pmatrix}$  then  $d_y P = \begin{pmatrix} x & a \\ y & c \end{pmatrix}$  and  $d_x P = \begin{pmatrix} x & b \\ y & d \end{pmatrix}$  so  $\{d_y P\} \cup \{d_x P\} = \begin{pmatrix} x & a & 0 \\ y & 0 & d \end{pmatrix} \neq P$ . So this  $G$  is truly meta.

**Claim.** From a meta-group  $G$  and YB elements  $R^\pm \in G_2$  we can construct a knot/tangle invariant.

**Bicrossed Products.** If  $G = HT$  is a group presented as a product of two of its subgroups, with  $H \cap T = \{e\}$ , then also  $G = TH$  and  $G$  is determined by  $H$ ,  $T$ , and the “swap” map  $sw^{th} : (t, h) \mapsto (h', t')$  defined by  $th = h't'$ . The map  $sw$  satisfies (1) and (2) below; conversely, if  $sw : T \times H \rightarrow H \times T$  satisfies (1) and (2) (+ lesser conditions), then (3) defines a group structure on  $H \times T$ , the “bicrossed product”.



# Meta-Groups, Meta-Bicrossed-Products, and the Alexander Polynomial, 2

A **Meta-Bicrossed-Product** is a collection of sets  $\beta(\eta, \tau)$  and operations  $tm_w^{uv}$ ,  $hm_z^{xy}$  and  $sw_{ux}^{th}$  (and lesser ones), such that  $tm$  and  $hm$  are “associative” and (1) and (2) hold (+ lesser conditions). A meta-bicrossed-product defines a meta-group with  $G_\gamma := \beta(\gamma, \gamma)$  and  $gm$  as in (3).

**Example.** Take  $\beta(\eta, \tau) = M_{\tau \times \eta}(\mathbb{Z})$  with row operations for the tails, column operations for the heads, and a trivial swap.

**$\beta$  Calculus.** Let  $\beta(\eta, \tau)$  be

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{c|ccc} \omega & h_1 & h_2 & \dots \\ \hline t_1 & \alpha_{11} & \alpha_{12} & \cdot \\ t_2 & \alpha_{21} & \alpha_{22} & \cdot \\ \vdots & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{array} \middle| \begin{array}{l} h_j \in \eta, t_i \in \tau, \text{ and } \omega \text{ and} \\ \text{the } \alpha_{ij} \text{ are rational functions} \\ \text{in a variable } X \end{array} \right\},$$

$$tm_w^{uv} : \begin{array}{c|c} \omega & \dots \\ \hline t_u & \alpha \\ \hline t_v & \beta \\ \hline \vdots & \gamma \end{array} \mapsto \begin{array}{c|c} \omega & \dots \\ \hline t_w & \alpha + \beta \\ \hline \vdots & \gamma \end{array}, \quad \begin{array}{c|c} \omega_1 & \eta_1 \\ \hline \tau_1 & \alpha_1 \\ \hline \omega_2 & \eta_2 \\ \hline \tau_2 & \alpha_2 \end{array} \cup \begin{array}{c|c} \omega_2 & \eta_2 \\ \hline \tau_2 & \alpha_2 \\ \hline \omega_1\omega_2 & \eta_1 \eta_2 \\ \hline \tau_2 & 0 \alpha_2 \end{array},$$

$$hm_z^{xy} : \begin{array}{c|ccc} \omega & h_x & h_y & \dots \\ \hline \vdots & \alpha & \beta & \gamma \end{array} \mapsto \begin{array}{c|ccc} \omega & h_z & \dots & \\ \hline \vdots & \alpha + \beta + \langle \alpha \rangle \beta & \gamma & \end{array},$$

$$sw_{ux}^{th} : \begin{array}{c|ccc} \omega & h_x & \dots & \\ \hline t_u & \alpha & \beta & \vdots \\ \hline \vdots & \gamma & \delta & \vdots \end{array} \mapsto \begin{array}{c|ccc} \omega \epsilon & h_x & \dots & \\ \hline t_u & \alpha(1 + \langle \gamma \rangle / \epsilon) & \beta(1 + \langle \gamma \rangle / \epsilon) & \dots \\ \hline \vdots & \gamma / \epsilon & \delta - \gamma \beta / \epsilon & \end{array},$$

where  $\epsilon := 1 + \alpha$  and  $\langle c \rangle := \sum_i c_i$ , and let

$$R_{ab}^p := \begin{array}{c|cc} 1 & h_a & h_b \\ \hline t_a & 0 & X - 1 \\ \hline t_b & 0 & 0 \end{array} \quad R_{ab}^m := \begin{array}{c|cc} 1 & h_a & h_b \\ \hline t_a & 0 & X^{-1} - 1 \\ \hline t_b & 0 & 0 \end{array}.$$

**Theorem.**  $\beta^\beta$  is a tangle invariant (and more). Restricted to knots, the  $\omega$  part is the Alexander polynomial. On braids, it is equivalent to the Burau representation. A variant for links contains the multivariable Alexander polynomial.

**Why Happy?** • Applications to w-knots.

- Everything that I know about the Alexander polynomial can be expressed cleanly in this language (even if without proof), except HF, but including genus, ribboness, cabling, v-knots, knotted graphs, etc., and there’s potential for vast generalizations.
- The least wasteful “Alexander for tangles” I’m aware of.

- Every step along the computation is the invariant of something.
- Fits on one sheet, including implementation & propaganda.



**Further meta-monoids.**  $\Pi$  (and variants),  $\mathcal{A}$  (and quotients),  $vT$ , ...

**Further meta-bicrossed-products.**  $\Pi$  (and variants),  $\vec{\mathcal{A}}$  (and quotients),  $M_0$ ,  $M$ ,  $\mathcal{K}^{bh}$ ,  $\mathcal{K}^{rbh}$ , ...

**Meta-Lie-algebras.**  $\mathcal{A}$  (and quotients),  $\mathcal{S}$ , ...

**Meta-Lie-bialgebras.**  $\vec{\mathcal{A}}$  (and quotients), ...

I don’t understand the relationship between  $gr$  and  $H$ , as it appears, for example, in braid theory.

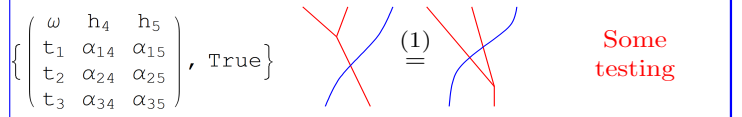
I mean business!

```

(⟨c⟩ := // / . t_u → 1;
tm_u_v_w[A_] := BCollect[β / . t_u v → t_w];
hm_u_v_w[A_] := Module[
  {α = D[A, h_u], β = D[A, h_v], γ = A / . h_u v → 0},
  B[ω, (α + (1 + ⟨γ⟩) β) h_u + γ] // BCollect];
sw_u_v_w[A_] := Module[{α = B[A, h_u], β = D[A, h_v] / . h_u → 0;
  γ = D[A, h_v] / . t_u → 0; δ = A / . h_u t_u → 0;
  ε = 1 + α;
  B[ω + ε, α(1 + ⟨γ⟩ / ε) h_u t_u + β(1 + ⟨γ⟩ / ε) t_u
  + γ / ε h_u + δ - γ β / ε];
] // BCollect];
M = Prepend[Transpose[M], Prepend[h_x & /@ h_x, ω]];
MatrixForm[M];
BForm[else_] := else / . β_B → BForm[β];
Format[β_B, StandardForm] := BForm[β];
    
```

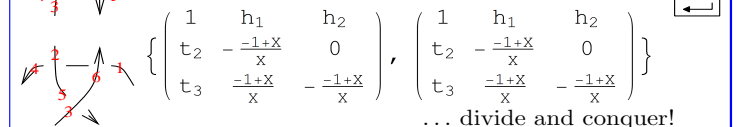
$$\{\beta = B[\omega, \text{Sum}[\alpha_{10+i+j} t_i h_j, \{i, \{1, 2, 3\}\}, \{j, \{4, 5\}\}]\},$$

$$(\beta // tm_{12 \rightarrow 1} // sw_{14}) = (\beta // sw_{24} // sw_{14} // tm_{12 \rightarrow 1})$$



$$\{Rm_{51} Rm_{62} Rp_{34} // gm_{14 \rightarrow 1} // gm_{25 \rightarrow 2} // gm_{36 \rightarrow 3},$$

$$Rp_{61} Rm_{24} Rm_{35} // gm_{14 \rightarrow 1} // gm_{25 \rightarrow 2} // gm_{36 \rightarrow 3}\}$$



$$\beta = Rm_{12,1} Rm_{27} Rm_{83} Rm_{4,11} Rp_{16,5} Rp_{6,13} Rp_{14,9} Rp_{10,15}$$

1	$h_1$	$h_3$	$h_5$	$h_7$	$h_9$	$h_{11}$	$h_{13}$	$h_{15}$
$t_2$	0	0	0	$-\frac{1+X}{X}$	0	0	0	0
$t_4$	0	0	0	0	0	$-\frac{1+X}{X}$	0	0
$t_6$	0	0	0	0	0	0	$-1+X$	0
$t_8$	0	$-\frac{1+X}{X}$	0	0	0	0	0	0
$t_{10}$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	$-1+X$
$t_{12}$	$-\frac{1+X}{X}$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
$t_{14}$	0	0	0	0	$-1+X$	0	0	0
$t_{16}$	0	0	$-1+X$	0	0	0	0	0

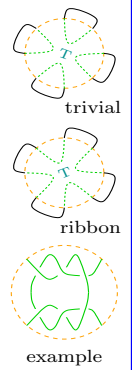
$$Do[\beta = \beta // gm_{1k \rightarrow 1}, \{k, 2, 10\}]; \beta$$

$\frac{1}{X}$	$h_1$	$h_{11}$	$h_{13}$	$h_{15}$
$t_1$	$-\frac{(-1+X)(1+X)}{X}$	$-(1+X)(1-X+X^2)$	$(-1+X)(1-X+X^2)$	$-1+X$
$t_{12}$	$-\frac{1+X}{X}$	0	0	0
$t_{14}$	$-1+X$	$\frac{(-1+X)^2(1-X+X^2)}{X}$	$-\frac{(-1+X)^2(1-X+X^2)}{X}$	0
$t_{16}$	$\frac{1+X}{X}$	$(-1+X)^2$	$-\frac{(-1+X)^3}{X}$	0

$$Do[\beta = \beta // gm_{1k \rightarrow 1}, \{k, 11, 16\}]; \beta$$

$$\left( -\frac{1-4X+8X^2-11X^3+8X^4-4X^5+X^6}{X^3} \right)$$

- A Partial To Do List.**
1. Where does it more simply come from?
  2. Remove all the denominators.
  3. How do determinants arise in this context?
  4. Understand links (“meta-conjugacy classes”).
  5. Find the “reality condition”.
  6. Do some “Algebraic Knot Theory”.
  7. Categorify.
  8. Do the same in other natural quotients of the v/w-story.



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

The Knot Atlas  
James C. Lagarias

www.katlas.org

example



# Balloons and Hoops and their Universal Finite-Type Invariant, BF Theory, and an Ultimate Alexander Invariant

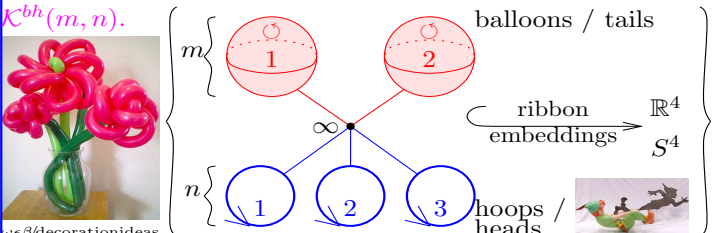
Dror Bar-Natan in Oxford, January 2013

$\omega \in \beta := \text{http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Talks/Oxford-130121}$



**Scheme.** • Balloons and hoops in  $\mathbb{R}^4$ , algebraic structure and relations with 3D.

- An ansatz for a “homomorphic” invariant: computable, related to finite-type and to BF.
- Reduction to an “ultimate Alexander invariant”.



**Examples.**

$\epsilon_x$ :

$\epsilon_u$ :

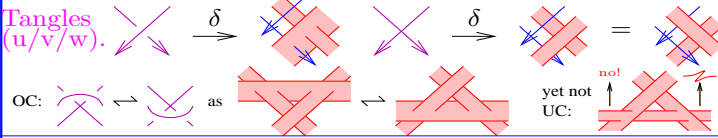
$\rho_{ux}^+$ :

$\rho_{ux}^-$ :

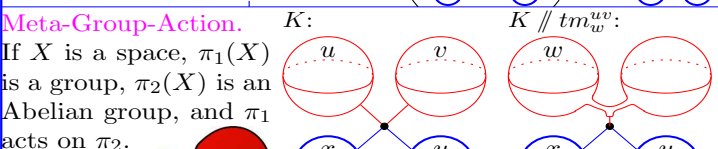
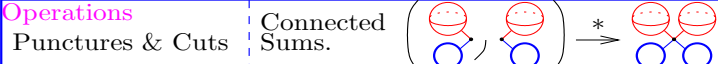
**I mean business!**

$T_0 = \text{Rm}[3, a] \text{Rp}[2, 2] \text{Rp}[1, 4]$   
 $S = T_0 // \text{dm}[2, 1, 1] // \text{dm}[4, b, b] //$   
 $\text{dm}[1, a, a] // \text{dm}[3, a, a]$   
 $S[[\{S}]] / \cdot (w_{CW} \mapsto (\text{Deg}[w] + 1) \cdot w, w_{CW} \mapsto \text{Deg}[w] \cdot w)$

$\mu[\text{CWG}[-[a], -2[\text{ab}], -3[\text{abb}], -3[\text{abb}], -4[\text{aaab}] - 42[\text{aabb}] - 60[\text{abab}] - 4[\text{abbb}], -5[\text{aaaab}] - 110[\text{aaabb}] - 180[\text{aabb}] - 110[\text{abbbb}] - 180[\text{ababb}] - 5[\text{abbbb}], \text{h}[b] \text{LS}[2(a), 0, -24(\text{aab}), -60(\text{aaab}) + 60(\text{aabb}), -120(\text{aaaab}) + 900(\text{aaabb}) + 360(\text{aabb}) - 120(\text{aaabb})] + \text{h}[a] \text{LS}[-2(a) + 2(b), 9(\text{ab}), 26(\text{aab}) - 26(\text{abb}), 60(\text{aaab}) - 255(\text{aaab}) - 60(\text{abbb}), 119(\text{aaaab}) - 1504(\text{aaabb}) - 118(\text{aabb}) + 1504(\text{aabb}) - 1386(\text{ababb}) - 119(\text{abbbb})]$

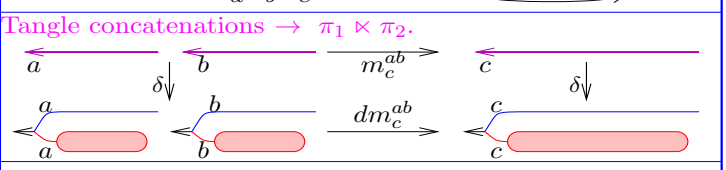
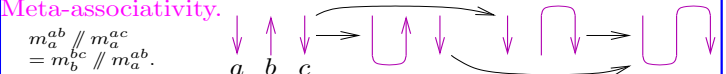


- $\delta$  injects u-Knots into  $\mathcal{K}^{bh}$  (likely u-tangles too).
- $\delta$  maps v/w-tangles map to  $\mathcal{K}^{bh}$ ; the kernel contains Reidemeister moves and the “overcrossings commute” relation, and **conjecturally**, that’s all. Allowing punctures and cuts,  $\delta$  is onto.



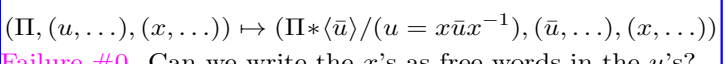
(“//” is newspeak for “apply an operator” and for “composition left to right”)

- Properties.**
- Associativities:  $m_a^{ab} // m_a^{ac} = m_b^{bc} // m_a^{ab}$ , for  $m = tm, hm$ .
  - Action axiom  $t$ :  $tm_w^{uv} // tha^{wx} = tha^{ux} // tha^{vx} // tm_w^{uv}$ .
  - Action axiom  $h$ :  $hm_z^{xy} // tha^{uz} = tha^{ux} // tha^{uy} // hm_z^{xy}$ .
  - SD Product:  $dm_c^{ab} := tha^{ab} // tm_c^{ab} // hm_c^{ab}$  is associative.



Thus we seek homomorphic invariants of  $\mathcal{K}^{bh}$ !

**Invariant #0.** With  $\Pi_1$  denoting “honest  $\pi_1$ ”, map  $\gamma \in \mathcal{K}^{bh}(m, n)$  to the triple  $(\Pi_1(\gamma^c), (u_i), (x_j))$ , where the meridian of the balls  $u_i$  normally generate  $\Pi_1$ , and the “longitudes”  $x_j$  are some elements of  $\Pi_1$ .  $*$  acts like  $*$ ,  $tm$  acts by “merging” two meridians/generators,  $hm$  acts by multiplying two longitudes, and  $tha^{ux}$  acts by “conjugating a meridian by a longitude”:

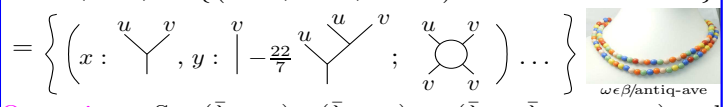


$(\Pi, (u, \dots), (x, \dots)) \mapsto (\Pi * \langle \bar{u} \rangle / (u = x \bar{u} x^{-1}), (\bar{u}, \dots), (x, \dots))$

**Failure #0.** Can we write the  $x$ ’s as free words in the  $u$ ’s? If  $x = uv$ , compute  $x // tha^{ux}$ :

$$x = uv \rightarrow \bar{u}v = u^x v = u^{\bar{u}v} v = u^{u^x v} v = u^{u^x v v} v = \dots$$

**The Meta-Group-Action  $M$ .** Let  $T$  be a set of “tail labels” (“balloon colours”), and  $H$  a set of “head labels” (“hoop colours”). Let  $FL = FL(T)$  and  $FA = FA(T)$  be the (completed graded) free Lie and free associative algebras on generators  $T$  and let  $CW = CW(T)$  be the (completed graded) vector space of cyclic words on  $T$ , so there’s  $\text{tr} : FA \rightarrow CW$ . Let  $M(T, H) := \{(\bar{\lambda} = (x : \lambda_x)_{x \in H}; \omega) : \lambda_x \in FL, \omega \in CW\}$



**Operations.** Set  $(\bar{\lambda}_1; \omega_1) * (\bar{\lambda}_2; \omega_2) := (\bar{\lambda}_1 \cup \bar{\lambda}_2; \omega_1 + \omega_2)$  and with  $\mu = (\bar{\lambda}; \omega)$  define

$$tm_w^{uv} : \mu \mapsto \mu // (u, v \mapsto w),$$

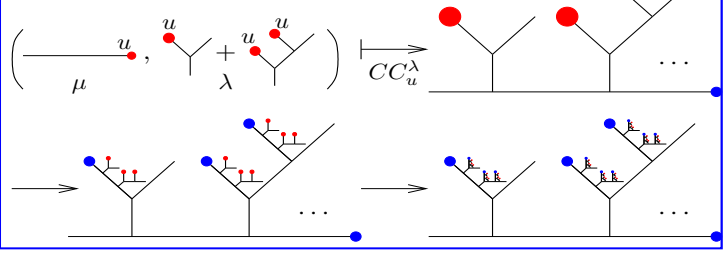
$$hm_z^{xy} : \mu \mapsto ((\dots, \widehat{x : \lambda_x}, \widehat{y : \lambda_y}, \dots, z : \text{bch}(\lambda_x, \lambda_y)); \omega)$$

“stable apply”

$$tha^{ux} : \mu \mapsto \underbrace{\mu // (u \mapsto e^{\text{ad } \lambda_x}(\bar{u}))}_{\mu // CC_u^\lambda} // (\bar{u} \mapsto u) + (0; J_u(\lambda_x))$$

the “ $J$ -spice”

**A  $CC_u^\lambda$  example.**





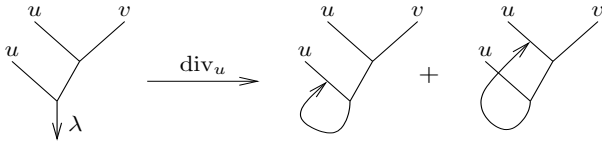
## Balloons and Hoops and their Universal Finite-Type Invariant, 2

The Meta-Cocycle  $J$ . Set  $J_u(\lambda) := J(1)$  where

$$J(0) = 0, \quad \lambda_s = \lambda // CC_u^{s\lambda},$$

$$\frac{dJ(s)}{ds} = (J(s) // \text{der}(u \mapsto [\lambda_s, u])) + \text{div}_u \lambda_s,$$

and where  $\text{div}_u \lambda := \text{tr}(u\sigma_u(\lambda))$ ,  $\sigma_u(v) := \delta_{uv}$ ,  $\sigma_u([\lambda_1, \lambda_2]) := \iota(\lambda_1)\sigma_u(\lambda_2) - \iota(\lambda_2)\sigma_u(\lambda_1)$  and  $\iota$  is the inclusion  $FL \hookrightarrow FA$ :



**Claim.**  $CC_u^{\text{bch}(\lambda_1, \lambda_2)} = CC_u^{\lambda_1} // CC_u^{\lambda_2} // CC_u^{\lambda_1}$  and

$$J_u(\text{bch}(\lambda_1, \lambda_2)) = J_u(\lambda_1) // CC_u^{\lambda_2} // CC_u^{\lambda_1} + J_u(\lambda_2 // CC_u^{\lambda_1}),$$

and hence  $tm$ ,  $hm$ , and  $tha$  form a meta-group-action.

**Why ODEs?** **Q.** Find  $f$  s.t.  $f(x+y) = f(x)f(y)$ .

**A.**  $\frac{df(s)}{ds} = \frac{df}{d\epsilon} f(s + \epsilon) = \frac{d}{d\epsilon} f(s)f(\epsilon) = f(s)C$ . Now solve this ODE using Picard's theorem or power series.



**The Invariant  $\zeta$ .** Set  $\zeta(\rho^\pm) = (\pm u_x; 0)$ . This at least defines an invariant of u/v/w-tangles, and if the topologists will deliver a "Reidemeister" theorem, it is well defined on  $\mathcal{K}^{bh}$ .

$$\zeta: \begin{array}{c} \text{u} \\ \diagdown \\ \text{u} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \text{v} \\ \diagup \\ \text{x} \end{array} \mapsto (x : + | u ; 0) \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{u} \\ \diagup \\ \text{u} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \text{v} \\ \diagdown \\ \text{x} \end{array} \mapsto (x : - | u ; 0)$$

**Theorem.**  $\zeta$  is (the log of) a universal finite type invariant (a homomorphic expansion) of w-tangles.

**Tensorial Interpretation.** Let  $\mathfrak{g}$  be a finite dimensional Lie algebra (any!). Then there's  $\tau : FL(T) \rightarrow \text{Fun}(\oplus_T \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{g})$  and  $\tau : CW(T) \rightarrow \text{Fun}(\oplus_T \mathfrak{g})$ . Together,  $\tau : M(T, H) \rightarrow \text{Fun}(\oplus_T \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \oplus_H \mathfrak{g})$ , and hence

$$e^\tau : M(T, H) \rightarrow \text{Fun}(\oplus_T \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathcal{U}^{\otimes H}(\mathfrak{g})).$$

**$\zeta$  and BF Theory.** Let  $A$  denote a  $\mathfrak{g}$ -connection on  $S^4$  with curvature  $F_A$ , and  $B$  a  $\mathfrak{g}^*$ -valued 2-form on  $S^4$ . For a hoop  $\gamma_x$ , let  $\text{hol}_{\gamma_x}(A) \in \mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g})$  be the holonomy of  $A$  along  $\gamma_x$ . For a ball  $\gamma_u$ , let  $\mathcal{O}_{\gamma_u}(B) \in \mathfrak{g}^*$  be the integral of  $B$  (transported via  $A$  to  $\infty$ ) on  $\gamma_u$ .



**Loose Conjecture.** For  $\gamma \in \mathcal{K}(T, H)$ ,

$$\int \mathcal{D}A \mathcal{D}B e^{\int B \wedge F_A} \prod_u e^{\mathcal{O}_{\gamma_u}(B)} \bigotimes_x \text{hol}_{\gamma_x}(A) = e^\tau(\zeta(\gamma)).$$

That is,  $\zeta$  is a complete evaluation of the BF TQFT.

**Issues.** How exactly is  $B$  transported via  $A$  to  $\infty$ ? How does the ribbon condition arise? Or if it doesn't, could it be that  $\zeta$  can be generalized??

**The  $\beta$  quotient, 1.** • Arises when  $\mathfrak{g}$  is the 2D non-Abelian Lie algebra.

• Arises when reducing by relations satisfied by the weight system of the Alexander polynomial.



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

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Paper in progress:  $\omega\epsilon\beta/kbh$

**The  $\beta$  quotient, 2.** Let  $R = \mathbb{Q}[\{c_u\}_{u \in T}]$  and  $L_\beta := R \otimes T$  with central  $R$  and with  $[u, v] = c_u v - c_v u$  for  $u, v \in T$ . Then  $FL \rightarrow L_\beta$  and  $CW \rightarrow R$ . Under this,

$$\mu \rightarrow (\bar{\lambda}; \omega) \quad \text{with } \bar{\lambda} = \sum_{x \in H, u \in T} \lambda_{ux} u x, \quad \lambda_{ux}, \omega \in R,$$

$$\text{bch}(u, v) \rightarrow \frac{c_u + c_v}{e^{c_u + c_v} - 1} \left( \frac{e^{c_u} - 1}{c_u} u + e^{c_u} \frac{e^{c_v} - 1}{c_v} v \right),$$

if  $\lambda = \sum \lambda_v v$  then with  $c_\lambda := \sum \lambda_v c_v$ ,

$$u // CC_u^\lambda = \left( 1 + c_u \lambda_u \frac{e^{c_\lambda} - 1}{c_\lambda} \right)^{-1} \left( e^{c_\lambda} u - c_u \frac{e^{c_\lambda} - 1}{c_\lambda} \sum_{v \neq u} \lambda_v v \right),$$

$\text{div}_u \lambda = c_u \lambda_u$ , and the ODE for  $J$  integrates to

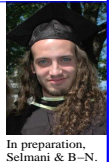
$$J_u(\lambda) = \log \left( 1 + \frac{e^{c_\lambda} - 1}{c_\lambda} c_u \lambda_u \right),$$

so  $\zeta$  is formula-computable to all orders! **Can we simplify?**

**Repackaging.** Given  $((x : \lambda_{ux}); \omega)$ , set  $c_x := \sum_v c_v \lambda_{vx}$ , replace  $\lambda_{ux} \rightarrow \alpha_{ux} := c_u \lambda_{ux} \frac{e^{c_x} - 1}{c_x}$  and  $\omega \rightarrow \log \omega$ , use  $t_u = e^{c_u}$ , and write  $\alpha_{ux}$  as a matrix. Get " **$\beta$  calculus**".

**$\beta$  Calculus.** Let  $\beta(H, T)$  be

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{c|ccc|c} \omega & x & y & \cdots & \omega \text{ and the } \alpha_{ux} \text{'s are} \\ u & \alpha_{ux} & \alpha_{uy} & \cdot & \text{rational functions in} \\ v & \alpha_{vx} & \alpha_{vy} & \cdot & \text{variables } t_u, \text{ one for} \\ \vdots & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \text{each } u \in T. \end{array} \right\},$$



$$tm_w^{uv} : \begin{array}{c|c} \omega & \cdots \\ u & \alpha \\ v & \beta \\ \vdots & \gamma \end{array} \mapsto \begin{array}{c|c} \omega & \cdots \\ w & \alpha + \beta \\ \vdots & \gamma \end{array}, \quad \frac{\omega_1 | H_1 \cup \omega_2 | H_2}{T_1 | \alpha_1} = \frac{\omega_1 \omega_2 | H_1 \quad H_2}{T_1 | \alpha_1 \quad 0} = \frac{\omega_1 \omega_2 | H_1 \quad H_2}{T_2 | 0 \quad \alpha_2},$$

$$hm_z^{xy} : \begin{array}{c|ccc} \omega & x & y & \cdots \\ \vdots & \alpha & \beta & \gamma \end{array} \mapsto \begin{array}{c|c} \omega & z \\ \vdots & \alpha + \beta + \langle \alpha \rangle \beta & \gamma \end{array},$$

$$tha^{ux} : \begin{array}{c|ccc} \omega & x & \cdots \\ u & \alpha & \beta \\ \vdots & \gamma & \delta \end{array} \mapsto \begin{array}{c|cc} \omega\epsilon & x & \cdots \\ u & \alpha(1 + \langle \gamma \rangle / \epsilon) & \beta(1 + \langle \gamma \rangle / \epsilon) \\ \vdots & \gamma / \epsilon & \delta - \gamma\beta / \epsilon \end{array},$$

where  $\epsilon := 1 + \alpha$ ,  $\langle \alpha \rangle := \sum_v \alpha_v$ , and  $\langle \gamma \rangle := \sum_{v \neq u} \gamma_v$ , and let

$$R_{ux}^+ := \frac{1}{u} \left| \frac{x}{t_u - 1} \right. \quad R_{ux}^- := \frac{1}{u} \left| \frac{x}{t_u^{-1} - 1} \right.$$

On long knots,  $\omega$  is the Alexander polynomial!

**Why bother? (1)** An ultimate Alexander invariant: Manifestly polynomial (time and size) extension of the (multivariable) Alexander polynomial to tangles. Every step of the computation is the computation of the invariant of some topological thing (no fishy Gaussian elimination!). *If there should be an Alexander invariant to have an algebraic categorification, it is this one!* See also  $\omega\epsilon\beta/\text{regina}$ ,  $\omega\epsilon\beta/\text{gwu}$ .



**Why bother? (2)** Related to A-T, K-V, and E-K, should have vast generalization beyond w-knots and the Alexander polynomial. See also  $\omega\epsilon\beta/\text{wko}$ ,  $\omega\epsilon\beta/\text{caen}$ ,  $\omega\epsilon\beta/\text{swiss}$ .



The Main Course

$B^{(m)} = (\text{PaB}^{(m)}, \mathbf{S} : \text{PaB}^{(m)} \rightarrow \text{PaP}, d_i, s_i, \square, \sigma)$

same-skeleton linear combinations allowed

$d_0$  (crossing) = ... ;  $d_0$  (cup) = ...

$d_2$  (cup) = ... ;  $d_2$  (crossing) = ...

$a =$  (cup) ,  $\sigma =$  (crossing)

$\square$  (cup) = ... and  $\square$  (crossing) = ...

$C^{(m)} = (\text{PaCD}^{(m)}, \mathbf{S} : \text{PaCD}^{(m)} \rightarrow \text{PaP}, d_i, s_i, \square, \tilde{R})$

same-skeleton linear combinations allowed

$d_2$  (cup) = ...

$d_0$  (cup) = ... ;  $s_1$  (cup) = ... ;  $s_1$  (crossing) = ...

$a =$  (cup) ;  $x =$  (crossing) ;  $H =$  (cup) ;  $\tilde{R} = X \exp \frac{H}{2}$

$\square$  (cup) = ... ;  $\square$  (crossing) = ...

ASSO

$d_4 \Phi \cdot d_2 \Phi \cdot d_0 \Phi = d_1 \Phi \cdot d_3 \Phi$

$d_1 \exp\left(\pm \frac{1}{2} t^{12}\right) =$

$\Phi \cdot \exp\left(\pm \frac{1}{2} t^{23}\right) \cdot (\Phi^{-1})^{132} \cdot \exp\left(\pm \frac{1}{2} t^{13}\right) \cdot \Phi^{312}$

$s_1 \Phi = s_2 \Phi = s_3 \Phi = 1$

$\square \Phi = \Phi \otimes \Phi$

$\mathbf{s}$  (crossing) = ...


PaP

$d_4 \Gamma \cdot d_2 \Gamma \cdot d_0 \Gamma = d_1 \Gamma \cdot d_3 \Gamma$

$1 = \Gamma \cdot (\Gamma^{-1})^{132} \cdot \Gamma^{312}$

$d_1 t^{12} = \Gamma \cdot (t^{23} \cdot (\Gamma^{-1})^{132} + (\Gamma^{-1})^{132} \cdot t^{13}) \cdot \Gamma^{312}$

$e^{\epsilon(t^{13} + t^{23})} = \Gamma \cdot e^{\epsilon t^{23}} \cdot (\Gamma^{-1})^{132} \cdot e^{\epsilon t^{13}} \cdot \Gamma^{312}$

 I have a nifty Free Lie calculator. Wanna play?

GT

GRT



# Local Khovanov Homology (1)

(an outdated overview)

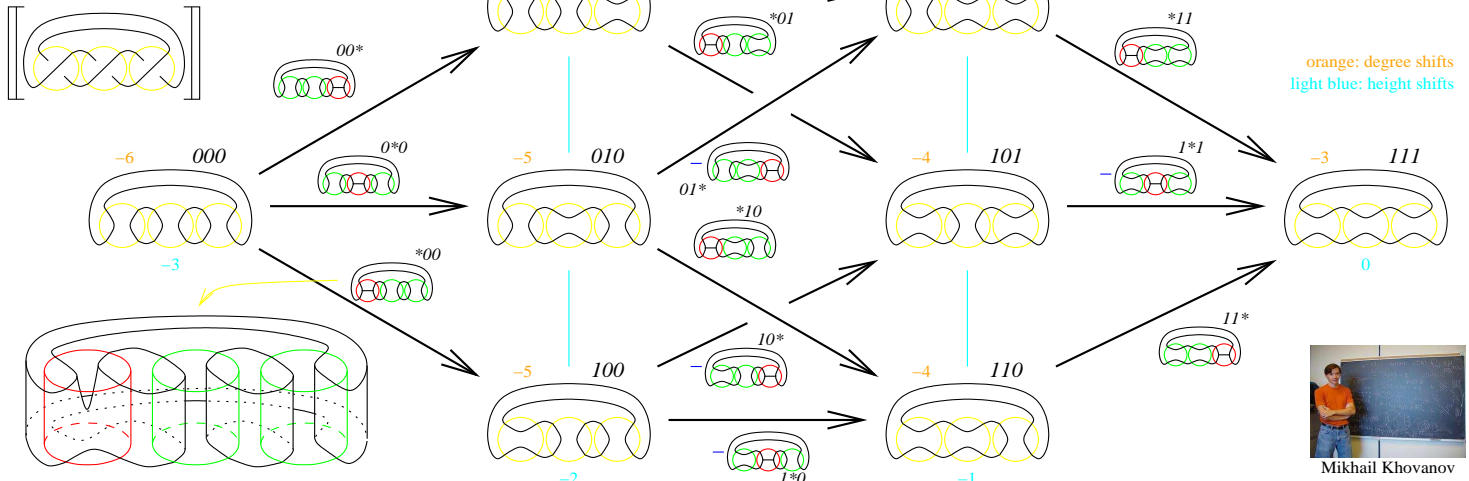
The Jones polynomial:  
 $J : \mathcal{K} \mapsto q \langle -q^2 \smile \rangle$ ,  $J : \mathcal{K} \mapsto -q^{-2} \smile + q^{-1} \langle \rangle$

$$\bigcirc^k \mapsto (q + q^{-1})^k$$

$$J : \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \diagup \\ \diagdown \end{array} \right\rangle \mapsto -q^{-1} \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \diagup \\ \diagdown \end{array} \right\rangle + \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \diagup \\ \diagdown \end{array} \right\rangle + \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \diagdown \\ \diagup \end{array} \right\rangle - q \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \diagdown \\ \diagup \end{array} \right\rangle$$

$$= -q^{-1} \langle \smile \rangle + \langle \smile \rangle + \langle \smile \rangle - q \langle \smile \rangle$$

R2



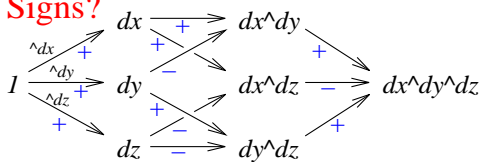
## What is it?

A cube for each knot/link projection;

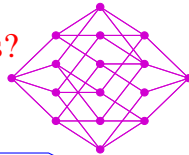
Vertices: All fillings of  $\bigcirc$  with  $\bigcirc$  or with  $\bigcirc$ .

Edges: All fillings of  $I \times \bigcirc = \text{cylinder}$  with  $I \times \bigcirc = \text{cylinder}$  or with  $I \times \bigcirc = \text{cylinder}$  and precisely one  $\bigcirc$ .

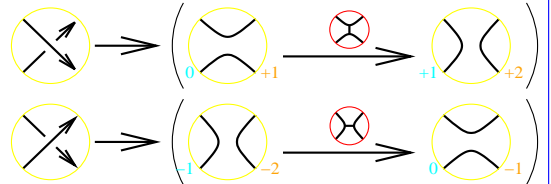
## Signs?



## More crossings?



## General Crossings

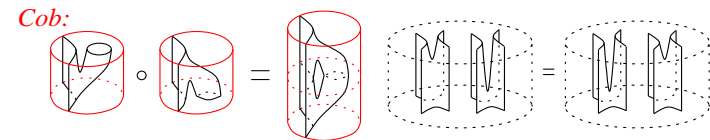


## Where does it live?

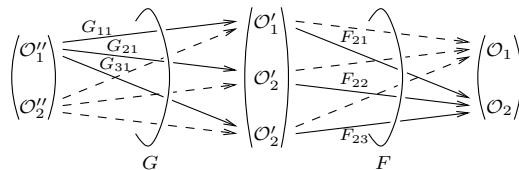
In  $Kom(Mat(\langle Cob \rangle / \{S, T, G, NC\})) / \text{homotopy}$

$Kom$ : Complexes  $Mat$ : Matrices

$Cob$ : Cobordisms  $\langle \dots \rangle$ : Formal lin. comb.



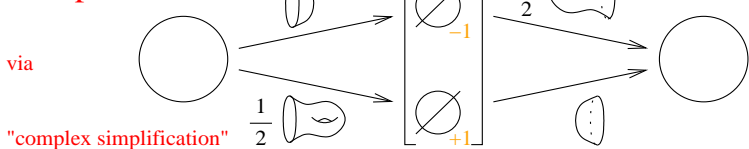
## Mat(C):



S:  $\bigcirc = 0$     T:  $\bigcirc = 2$     G:  $\text{cylinder} = 0$

NC:  $2 \text{ cylinders} = \text{cylinder} + \text{cylinder} + \text{cylinder}$

## Computable!



"complex simplification"

## Complexes:

$$\Omega = (\Omega^{-n} \longrightarrow \Omega^{-n+1} \longrightarrow \dots \longrightarrow \Omega^n)$$

## Morphisms:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \dots & \longrightarrow & \Omega_0^{r-1} & \xrightarrow{d^{r-1}} & \Omega_0^r & \xrightarrow{d^r} & \Omega_0^{r+1} & \longrightarrow & \dots \\ & & \downarrow F^{r-1} & & \downarrow F^r & & \downarrow F^{r+1} & & \\ \dots & \longrightarrow & \Omega_1^{r-1} & \xrightarrow{d^{r-1}} & \Omega_1^r & \xrightarrow{d^r} & \Omega_1^{r+1} & \longrightarrow & \dots \end{array}$$

## Homotopies:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \Omega_0^{r-1} & \xrightarrow{d^{r-1}} & \Omega_0^r & \xrightarrow{d^r} & \Omega_0^{r+1} \\ \downarrow F^{r-1} & \swarrow h^r & \downarrow F^r & \swarrow h^{r+1} & \downarrow F^{r+1} \\ \Omega_1^{r-1} & \xrightarrow{d^{r-1}} & \Omega_1^r & \xrightarrow{d^r} & \Omega_1^{r+1} \\ \downarrow G^{r-1} & & \downarrow G^r & & \downarrow G^{r+1} \end{array}$$

$$F^r - G^r = h^{r+1} d^r + d^{r-1} h^r$$

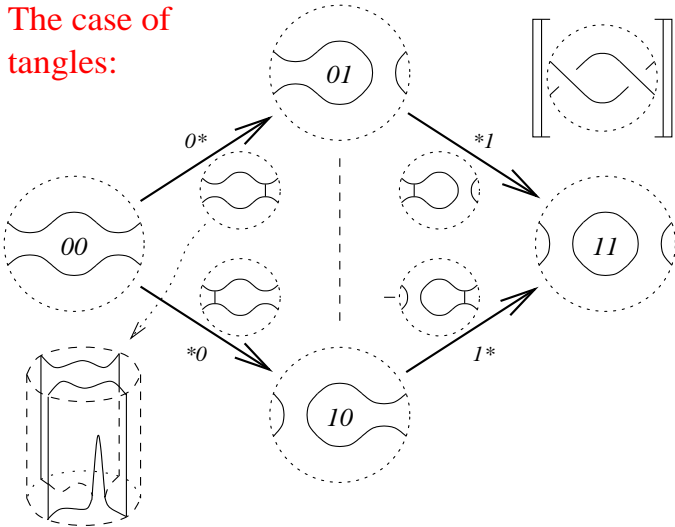
**The Main Point.** "The cube",  $Kh(L)$ , is an up-to-homotopy invariant of knots and links. It's Euler characteristic is the Jones polynomial, yet it is strictly stronger than the Jones polynomial. It is functorial (in the appropriate sense) and practically computable.

- The Categorification Speculative Paradigm.**
- Every object in math is the Euler characteristic of a complex.
  - Every operation lifts to an operation between complexes.
  - Every identity remains true, up to homotopy.

All arrows in an arbitrary additive category.

# Local Khovanov Homology (2)

The case of tangles:



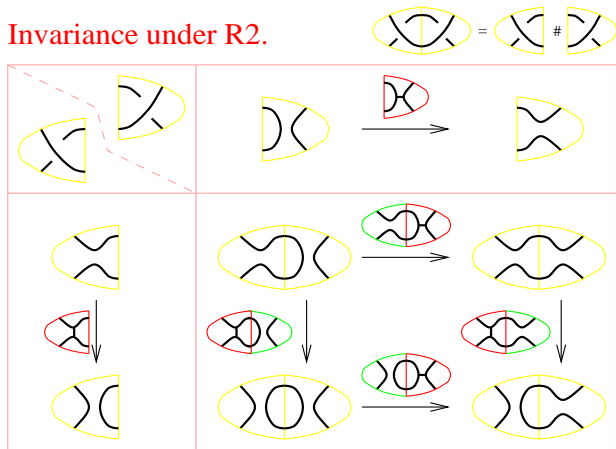
**The Reduction Lemma.** If  $\phi$  is an isomorphism then the complex

$$[C] \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \end{pmatrix}} \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ D \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} \phi & \delta \\ \gamma & \epsilon \end{pmatrix}} \begin{bmatrix} b_2 \\ E \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{(\mu \ \nu)} [F]$$

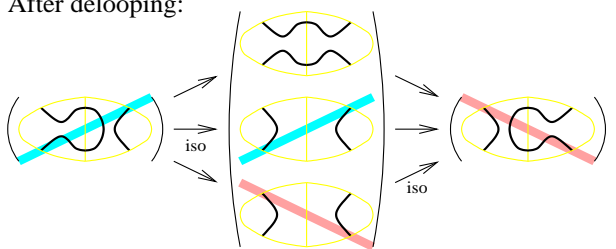
is isomorphic to the (direct sum) complex

$$[C] \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \beta \end{pmatrix}} \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ D \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} \phi & 0 \\ 0 & \epsilon - \gamma\phi^{-1}\delta \end{pmatrix}} \begin{bmatrix} b_2 \\ E \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{(0 \ \nu)} [F]$$

Invariance under R2.



After delooping:



Kurt Reidemeister

- <http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/papers/Cobordism/>
- <http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/papers/FastKh/>
- <http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Talks/Hamburg-1208/>

I mean business.

T(7,6)



says



Old techniques:

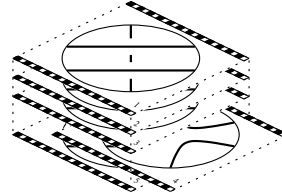
~1,000 years,  
~1Ggb RAM.

(now down to seconds)

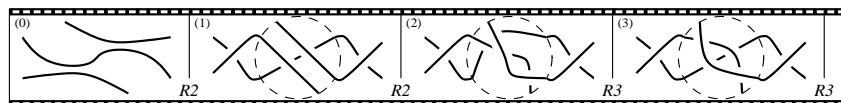
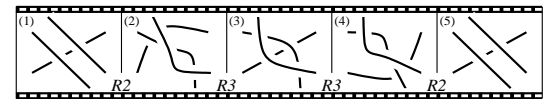
$\dim_j H_r$  is given by:

$j \setminus r$	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
57																					
55																					
53																					
51																					
49																					
47																					
45																					
43																					
41																					
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Functoriality / cobordisms.



M. Jacobsson



J. Rasmussen: Leads to a no-analysis proof of a conjecture by Milnor.

A more general theory: Remove G and NC, add

$$4Tu: \begin{matrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{matrix} + \begin{matrix} \text{crossing} \\ \text{crossing} \end{matrix} = \begin{matrix} \text{link} \\ \text{link} \end{matrix} + \begin{matrix} \text{link} \\ \text{link} \end{matrix}$$

(minor further revisions are necessary)

"God created the knots,  
all else in topology is the work of mortals"

Leopold Kronecker (modified)



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## The Most Important Missing Infrastructure Project in Knot Theory

January-23-12  
10:12 AM

An "infrastructure project" is hard (and sometimes non-glorious) work that's done now and pays off later.

An example, and the most important one within knot theory, is the tabulation of knots up to 10 crossings. I think it precedes Rolfsen, yet the result is often called "the Rolfsen Table of Knots", as it is famously printed as an appendix to the famous book by Rolfsen. There is no doubt the production of the Rolfsen table was hard and non-glorious. Yet its impact was and is tremendous. Every new thought in knot theory is tested against the Rolfsen table, and it is hard to find a paper in knot theory that doesn't refer to the Rolfsen table in one way or another.

A second example is the Hoste-Thistlethwaite tabulation of knots with up to 17 crossings. Perhaps more fun to do as the real hard work was delegated to a machine, yet hard it certainly was: a proof is in the fact that nobody so far had tried to replicate their work, not even to a smaller crossing number. Yet again, it is hard to overestimate the value of that project: in many ways the Rolfsen table is "not yet generic", and many phenomena that appear to be rare when looking at the Rolfsen table become the rule when the view is expanded. Likewise, other phenomena only appear for the first time when looking at higher crossing numbers.

But as I like to say, knots are the wrong object to study in knot theory. Let me quote (with some variation) my own (with Dancso) "[WKO](#)" paper:

Studying knots on their own is the parallel of studying cakes and pastries as they come out of the bakery - we sure want to make them our own, but the theory of desserts is more about the ingredients and how they are put together than about the end products. In algebraic knot theory this reflects through the fact that knots are not finitely generated in any sense (hence they must be made of some more basic ingredients), and through the fact that there are very few operations defined on knots (connected sums and satellite operations being the main exceptions), and thus most interesting properties of knots are transcendental, or non-algebraic, when viewed from within the algebra of knots and operations on knots (see [[AKT-CFA](#)]).

The right objects for study in knot theory are thus the ingredients that make up knots and that permit a richer algebraic structure. These are braids (which are already well-studied and tabulated) and even more so tangles and tangled graphs.

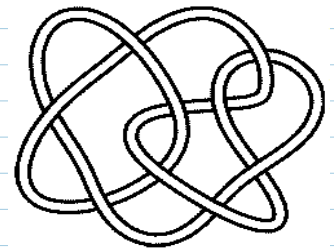
**Thus in my mind the most important missing infrastructure project in knot theory is the tabulation of tangles to as high a crossing number as practical.** This will enable a great amount of testing and experimentation for which the grounds are now still missing. The existence of such a tabulation will greatly impact the direction of knot theory, as many tangle theories and issues that are now ignored for the lack of scope, will suddenly become alive and relevant. The overall influence of such a tabulation, if done right, will be comparable to the influence of the Rolfsen table.

Aside. What are tangles? Are they embedded in a disk? A ball? Do they have an "up side" and a "down side"? Are the strands oriented? Do we mod out by some symmetries or figure out the action of some symmetries? Shouldn't we also calculate the affect of various tangle operations (strand doubling and deletion, juxtapositions, etc.)? Shouldn't we also enumerate virtual tangles? w-tangles? Tangled graphs?

In my mind it would be better to leave these questions to the tabulator. Anything is better than nothing, yet good tabulators would try to tabulate the more general things from which the more special ones can be sieved relatively easily, and would see that their programs already contain all that would be easy to implement within their frameworks. Counting legs is easy and can be left to the end user. Determining symmetries is better done along with the enumeration itself, and so it should.

**An even better tabulation** should come with a modern front-end - a set of programs for basic manipulations of tangles, and a web-based "tangle atlas" for an even easier access.

Overall this would be a major project, well worthy of your time.



(KnotPlot image)

9\_42 is Alexander Stoimenow's favourite



K11n150

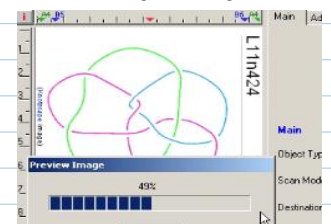
(Knotscape image)



The interchange of I-95 and I-695, northeast of Baltimore. ([more](#))



From [[AKT-CFA](#)]



From [[FastKh](#)]



(Source: <http://katlas.math.toronto.edu/drorbn/AcademicPensieve/2012-01/>)

**Table 18-1 Classical Physics**

# A Bit on Maxwell's Equations

## Prerequisites.

- Poincaré's Lemma, which says that on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , every closed form is exact. That is, if  $d\omega = 0$ , then there exists  $\eta$  with  $d\eta = \omega$ .
- Integration by parts:  $\int \omega \wedge d\eta = -(-1)^{\deg \omega} \int (d\omega) \wedge \eta$  on domains that have no boundary.
- The Hodge star operator  $\star$  which satisfies  $\omega \wedge \star \eta = \langle \omega, \eta \rangle dx_1 \cdots dx_n$  whenever  $\omega$  and  $\eta$  are of the same degree.
- The simplest least action principle: the extremes of  $q \mapsto \int_a^b (\frac{1}{2}m\dot{q}^2(t) - V(q(t))) dt$  occur when  $m\ddot{q} = -V'(q(t))$ . That is, when  $F = ma$ .

<b>Maxwell's equations</b>	
I. $\nabla \cdot E = \frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0}$	(Flux of $E$ through a closed surface) = (Charge inside)/ $\epsilon_0$
II. $\nabla \times E = -\frac{\partial B}{\partial t}$	(Line integral of $E$ around a loop) = $-\frac{d}{dt}$ (Flux of $B$ through the loop)
III. $\nabla \cdot B = 0$	(Flux of $B$ through a closed surface) = 0
IV. $c^2 \nabla \times B = \frac{J}{\epsilon_0} + \frac{\partial E}{\partial t}$	$c^2$ (Integral of $B$ around a loop) = (Current through the loop)/ $\epsilon_0$ + $\frac{\partial}{\partial t}$ (Flux of $E$ through the loop)
[Conservation of charge $\nabla \cdot j = -\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t}$ (Flux of current through a closed surface) = $-\frac{\partial}{\partial t}$ (Charge inside)]	
<b>Force law</b> $F = q(E + v \times B)$	
<b>Law of motion</b> $\frac{d}{dt}(p) = F$ , where $p = \frac{mv}{\sqrt{1 - v^2/c^2}}$ (Newton's law, with Einstein's modification)	
<b>Gravitation</b> $F = -G \frac{m_1 m_2}{r^2} e_r$	

The Feynman Lectures on Physics vol. II, page 18-2

**The Action Principle.** The *Vector Field* is a compactly supported 1-form  $A$  on  $\mathbb{R}^4$  which extremizes the *action*

$$S_J(A) := \int_{\mathbb{R}^4} \frac{1}{2} \|dA\|^2 dt dx dy dz + J \wedge A$$

where the 3-form  $J$  is the *charge-current*.

**The Euler-Lagrange Equations** in this case are  $d \star dA = J$ , meaning that there's no hope for a solution unless  $dJ = 0$ , and that we might as well (think Poincaré's Lemma!) change variables to  $F := dA$ . We thus get

$$dJ = 0 \quad dF = 0 \quad d \star F = J$$

**These are the Maxwell equations!** Indeed, writing  $F = (E_x dxdt + E_y dydt + E_z dzdt) + (B_x dydz + B_y dzdx + B_z dx dy)$  and  $J = \rho dx dy dz - j_x dy dz dt - j_y dz dx dt - j_z dx dy dt$ , we find:

$dJ = 0 \implies$	$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \text{div } j = 0$	"conservation of charge"
$dF = 0 \implies$	$\text{div } B = 0$	"no magnetic monopoles"
	$\text{curl } E = -\frac{\partial B}{\partial t}$	that's how generators work!
$d \star F = J \implies$	$\text{div } E = -\rho$	"electrostatics"
	$\text{curl } B = -\frac{\partial E}{\partial t} + j$	that's how electromagnets work!

**Exercise.** Use the Lorentz metric to fix the sign errors.

**Exercise.** Use pullbacks along Lorentz transformations to figure out how  $E$  and  $B$  (and  $j$  and  $\rho$ ) appear to moving observers.

**Exercise.** With  $ds^2 = c^2 dt^2 - dx^2 - dy^2 - dz^2$  use  $S = mc \int_{e_1}^{e_2} (ds + eA)$  to derive Feynman's "law of motion" and "force law".



Let  $K$  be a unital algebra over a field  $\mathbb{F}$  with  $\text{char } \mathbb{F} = 0$ , and let  $I \subset K$  be an “augmentation ideal”; so  $K/I \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathbb{F}$ .

**Definition.** Say that  $K$  is **quadratic** if its associated graded  $\text{gr } K = \bigoplus_{p=0}^{\infty} I^p/I^{p+1}$  is a quadratic algebra. Alternatively, let  $A = q(K) = \langle V = I/I^2 \rangle / \langle R_2 = \ker(\bar{\mu}_2 : V \otimes V \rightarrow I^2/I^3) \rangle$  be the “quadratic approximation” to  $K$  ( $q$  is a lovely functor). Then  $K$  is quadratic iff the obvious  $\mu : A \rightarrow \text{gr } K$  is an isomorphism. If  $G$  is a group, we say it is quadratic if its group ring is, with its augmentation ideal.

**The Overall Strategy.** Consider the “singularity tower” of  $(K, I)$  (here “ $\cdot$ ” means  $\otimes_K$  and  $\mu$  is (always) multiplication):

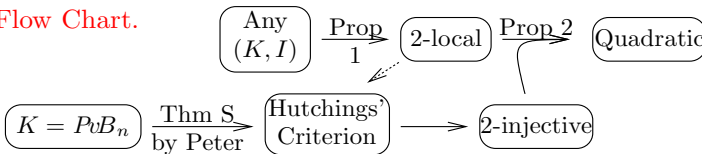
$$\dots \rightarrow I^{p+1} \xrightarrow{\mu_{p+1}} I^p \xrightarrow{\mu_p} I^{p-1} \longrightarrow \dots \longrightarrow K$$

We care as  $\text{im}(\mu^p = \mu_1 \circ \dots \circ \mu_p) = I^p$ , so  $I^p/I^{p+1} = \text{im } \mu^p / \text{im } \mu^{p+1}$ . Hence we ask:

- What’s  $I^p/\mu(I^{p+1})$ ? • How injective is this tower?

**Lemma.**  $I^p/\mu(I^{p+1}) \simeq (I/I^2)^{\otimes p} = V^{\otimes p}$ ; set  $\pi : I^p \rightarrow V^{\otimes p}$ .

**Flow Chart.**



**Proposition 1.** The sequence

$$\mathfrak{R}_p := \bigoplus_{j=1}^{p-1} (I^{j-1} : \mathfrak{R}_2 : I^{p-j-1}) \xrightarrow{\partial} I^p \xrightarrow{\mu_p} I^{p-1}$$

is exact, where  $\mathfrak{R}_2 := \ker \mu : I^2 \rightarrow I$ ; so  $(K, I)$  is “2-local”.

**The Free Case.** If  $J$  is an augmentation ideal in  $K = F = \langle x_i \rangle$ , define  $\psi : F \rightarrow F$  by  $x_i \mapsto x_i + \epsilon(x_i)$ . Then  $J_0 := \psi(J)$  is  $\{w \in F : \text{deg } w > 0\}$ . For  $J_0$  it is easy to check that  $\mathfrak{R}_2 = \mathfrak{R}_p = 0$ , and hence the same is true for every  $J$ .

**The General Case.** If  $K = F/\langle M \rangle$  (where  $M$  is a vector space of “moves”) and  $I \subset K$ , then  $I = J/\langle M \rangle$  where  $J \subset F$ . Then  $I^p = J^p / \sum J^{j-1} \langle M \rangle : J^{p-j}$  and we have

$$\begin{array}{ccc} J^p & \xrightarrow[\text{1-1}]{\mu_F} & J^{p-1} \\ \text{onto } \downarrow \pi_p & & \downarrow \text{onto } \pi_{p-1} \\ I^p = J^p / \sum J^{j-1} \langle M \rangle : J^j & \xrightarrow{\mu} & I^{p-1} = J^{p-1} / \sum J^{j-1} \langle M \rangle : J^j \end{array}$$

So  $\ker(\mu) = \pi_p(\mu_F^{-1}(\ker \pi_{p-1})) = \pi_p(\sum \mu_F^{-1}(J^j : \langle M \rangle : J^j)) = \sum \pi_p(J^j : \mu_F^{-1} \langle M \rangle : J^j) = \sum I^j : \mathfrak{R}_2 : I^j =: \sum_{j=1}^{p-1} \mathfrak{R}_{p,j}$ .

**$\mathfrak{R}_2$  is simpler than may seem!** It’s an “augmentation bimodule” ( $I\mathfrak{R}_2 = 0 = \mathfrak{R}_2 I$  thus  $xr = \epsilon(x)r = r\epsilon(x) = rx$  for  $x \in K$  and  $r \in \mathfrak{R}_2$ ), and hence  $I^2 \xrightarrow{\mu} I = J/\langle M \rangle$   $\mathfrak{R}_2 = \pi_2(\mu_F^{-1}M)$ .

**$\mathfrak{R}_p$  is simpler than may seem!** In  $\mathfrak{R}_{p,j} = I^{j-1} : \mathfrak{R}_2 : I^{p-j-1}$  the  $I$  factors may be replaced by  $V = I/I^2$ . Hence

$$\mathfrak{R}_p \simeq \bigoplus_{j=1}^{p-1} V^{\otimes j-1} \otimes \pi_2(\mu_F^{-1}M) \otimes V^{\otimes p-j-1}.$$

**Claim.**  $\pi(\mathfrak{R}_{p,j}) = R_{p,j}$ ; namely,

$$\pi(I^{j-1} : \mathfrak{R}_2 : I^{p-j-1}) = V^{\otimes j-1} \otimes R_2 \otimes V^{\otimes p-j-1}.$$

**Why Care?**

- In abstract generality,  $\text{gr } K$  is a simplified version of  $K$  and if it is quadratic it is as simple as it may be without being silly.
- In some concrete (somewhat generalized) knot theoretic cases,  $A$  is a space of “universal Lie algebraic formulas” and the “primary approach” for proving (strong) quadraticity, constructing an appropriate homomorphism  $Z : K \rightarrow \hat{A}$ , becomes wonderful mathematics:

	u-Knots and Braids	v-Knots	w-Knots
$K$	Metrized Lie algebras [BN1]	Lie bialgebras [Hav]	Finite dimensional Lie algebras [BN3]
$A$	Associators [Dri, BND]	Etingof-Kazhdan quantization [EK, BN2]	Kashiwara-Vergne-Alekseev-Torossian [KV, AT]
$Z$			

**2-Injectivity.** A (one-sided infinite) sequence

$$\dots \longrightarrow K_{p+1} \xrightarrow{\delta_{p+1}} K_p \xrightarrow{\delta_p} \dots \longrightarrow K_0 = K$$

is “injective” if for all  $p > 0$ ,  $\ker \delta_p = 0$ . It is “2-injective” if its “1-reduction”

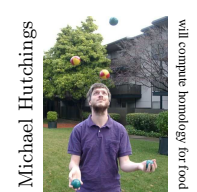
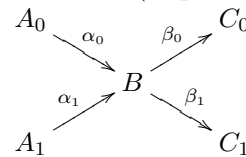
$$\dots \longrightarrow \frac{K_{p+1}}{\ker \delta_{p+1}} \xrightarrow{\bar{\delta}_{p+1}} \frac{K_p}{\ker \delta_p} \xrightarrow{\bar{\delta}_p} \frac{K_{p-1}}{\ker \delta_{p-1}} \longrightarrow \dots$$

is injective; i.e. if for all  $p$ ,  $\ker(\bar{\delta}_p \circ \bar{\delta}_{p+1}) = \ker \bar{\delta}_{p+1}$ . A pair  $(K, I)$  is “2-injective” if its singularity tower is 2-injective.

**Proposition 2.** If  $(K, I)$  is 2-local and 2-injective, it is quadratic.

**Proof.** Staring at the 1-reduced sequence  $\frac{I^{p+1}}{\ker \mu_{p+1}} \xrightarrow{\mu_{p+1}} \frac{I^p}{\ker \mu_p} \xrightarrow{\mu_p} \dots \longrightarrow K$ , get  $\frac{I^p}{\ker \mu_{p+1}} \simeq \frac{I^p/\ker \mu_p}{\mu(I^{p+1}/\ker \mu_{p+1})} \simeq \frac{I^p}{\mu(I^{p+1}) + \ker \mu_p}$ . But  $\frac{I^p}{\mu(I^{p+1})} \simeq (I/I^2)^{\otimes p}$ , so the above is  $(I/I^2)^{\otimes p} / \sum (I^{j-1} : \mathfrak{R}_2 : I^{p-j-1})$ . But that’s the degree  $p$  piece of  $q(K)$ .

**The X Lemma** (inspired by [Hut]).

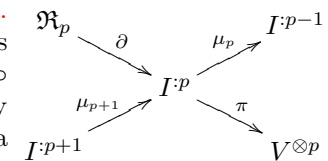


If the above diagram is Conway ( $\simeq$ ) exact, then its two diagonals have the same “2-injectivity defect”. That is, if  $A_0 \rightarrow B \rightarrow C_0$  and  $A_1 \rightarrow B \rightarrow C_1$  are exact, then  $\ker(\beta_1 \circ \alpha_0) / \ker \alpha_0 \simeq \ker(\beta_0 \circ \alpha_1) / \ker \alpha_1$ .

**Proof.**  $\frac{\ker(\beta_1 \circ \alpha_0)}{\ker \alpha_0} \xrightarrow[\alpha_0]{\sim} \ker \beta_1 \cap \text{im } \alpha_0 = \ker \beta_0 \cap \text{im } \alpha_1 \xleftarrow[\alpha_1]{\sim} \frac{\ker(\beta_0 \circ \alpha_1)}{\ker \alpha_1}$ .


**The Hutchings Criterion [Hut].**

The singularity tower of  $(K, I)$  is 2-injective iff on the right,  $\ker(\pi \circ \partial) = \ker(\partial)$ . That is, iff every “diagrammatic syzygy” is also a “topological syzygy”.



**Conclusion.** We need to know that  $(K, I)$  is “syzygy complete” — that every diagrammatic syzygy is also a topological syzygy, that  $\ker(\pi \circ \partial) = \ker(\partial)$ .

Example.



(goes back to [Koh])

$$K = \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \diagup \diagdown \\ \diagdown \diagup \end{array} \right\rangle \quad I = \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \times \\ \diagup \diagdown \\ \diagdown \diagup \end{array} \right\rangle$$

$(K/I^{p+1})^* = (\text{invariants of type } p) =: \mathcal{V}_p$


$$(I^p/I^{p+1})^* = \mathcal{V}_p/\mathcal{V}_{p-1} \quad V = \langle t^{ij} | t^{ij} = t^{ji} \rangle = \langle \text{HH} \rangle$$

$$\ker \bar{\mu}_2 = \langle [t^{ij}, t^{kl}] = 0 = [t^{ij}, t^{ik} + t^{jk}] \rangle = \langle 4T \text{ relations} \rangle$$

$$A = q(K) = \left( \text{horizontal chord diagrams mod } 4T \right) = \langle \text{HH} \rangle / 4T$$

Z: universal finite type invariant, the Kontsevich integral.

$PvB_n$  is the group

$$\langle \sigma_{ij} : 1 \leq i \neq j \leq n \rangle / \begin{array}{l} \sigma_{ij}\sigma_{ik}\sigma_{jk} = \sigma_{jk}\sigma_{ik}\sigma_{ij} \\ \sigma_{ij}\sigma_{kl} = \sigma_{kl}\sigma_{ij} \end{array}$$



L. Kauffman [Kau, KL]

of “pure virtual braids” (“braids when you look”, “blunder braids”):

$$\sigma_{24} = \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \quad \diagdown \end{array} \quad R3: \begin{array}{c} \uparrow^k \quad \uparrow^j \quad \uparrow^i \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \uparrow^i \quad \uparrow^j \quad \uparrow^k \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \uparrow^k \quad \uparrow^j \quad \uparrow^i \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \uparrow^i \quad \uparrow^j \quad \uparrow^k \end{array}$$

The Main Theorem [Lee].  $PvB_n$  is quadratic.

$A_n = q(PvB_n)$ .



[GPV] Goussarov-Polyak-Viro

$$I = \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \text{v-braids} \\ \text{with one } \bowtie \end{array} \right\rangle / (\bowtie = \times)$$

with  $\bowtie = \tilde{\sigma}_{ij} = \sigma_{ij} - 1 = \times - \times$ , the “semi-virtual crossing”.

$$V = I/I^2 = \langle \text{v-braids with one } \bowtie \rangle / (\bowtie = \times)$$

$$A_n = TV / \langle [a_{ij}, a_{ik}] + [a_{ij}, a_{jk}] + [a_{ik}, a_{jk}], c_{kl}^{ij} = [a_{ij}, a_{kl}] \rangle$$

$$y_{ijk} = \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \end{array} - \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \end{array} - \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \end{array} - \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \end{array}$$

$$I^p: \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \end{array}$$

James Gillespie’s Sightline #2 (1984) is a syzygy, and (arguably) Toronto’s largest sculpture. Find it next to University of Toronto’s Hart House.



$\mathfrak{R}_2(PvB_n)$  is generated as a vector space by  $C_{kl}^{ij}$  and

$$Y_{ijk} := \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \end{array}$$

$$- \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \end{array} - \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \end{array} - \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \end{array} - \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \end{array}$$

Syzygy Completeness, for  $PvB_n$ , means:

$$\mathfrak{R}_p = \bigoplus_{j=1}^{p-1} \mathfrak{R}_{p,j} \xrightarrow{\partial} I^p \xrightarrow{\pi} V^{\otimes p}$$

$$\{\tilde{\sigma}_{12} : Y_{345} : \tilde{\sigma}_{67} : \dots\} \rightarrow \{\tilde{\sigma}_{12} : Y_{345} : \tilde{\sigma}_{67} : \dots\} \rightarrow \{a_{12}y_{345}a_{67} : \dots\}$$

Is every relation between the  $y_{ijk}$ ’s and the  $c_{kl}^{ij}$ ’s also a relation between the  $Y_{ijk}$ ’s and the  $C_{kl}^{ij}$ ’s?

The Group  $PvB_n$

Generators:  $\sigma_{ij} \rightarrow \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \quad \uparrow \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \end{array}$

Relations:

$$C_{kl}^{ij}: \begin{array}{c} \uparrow^i \quad \uparrow^j \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \uparrow^k \quad \uparrow^l \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \uparrow^i \quad \uparrow^j \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \uparrow^k \quad \uparrow^l \end{array} \rightarrow \begin{array}{c} \uparrow^i \quad \uparrow^j \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \uparrow^k \quad \uparrow^l \end{array}$$

$$Y_{ijk}: \begin{array}{c} \uparrow^i \quad \uparrow^j \quad \uparrow^k \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \uparrow^i \quad \uparrow^j \quad \uparrow^k \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \uparrow^i \quad \uparrow^j \quad \uparrow^k \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \uparrow^i \quad \uparrow^j \quad \uparrow^k \end{array}$$

A Syzygy:

Theorem S. Let  $D$  be the free associative algebra generated by symbols  $a_{ij}$ ,  $y_{ijk}$  and  $c_{kl}^{ij}$ , where  $1 \leq i, j, k, l \leq n$  are distinct integers. Let  $D_0$  be the part of  $D$  with only  $a_{ij}$  symbols and let  $D_1$  be the span of the monomials in  $D$  having only  $a_{ij}$  symbols, with exactly one exception that may be either a  $y_{ijk}$  or a  $c_{kl}^{ij}$ . Let  $\partial : D_1 \rightarrow D_0$  be the map defined by

$$y_{ijk} \mapsto [a_{ij}, a_{ik}] + [a_{ij}, a_{jk}] + [a_{ik}, a_{jk}],$$

$$c_{kl}^{ij} \mapsto [a_{ij}, a_{kl}].$$

Then  $\ker \partial$  is generated by a family of elements readable from the picture above and by a few similar but lesser families.

## Footnotes

1. Following a homonymous paper and thesis by Peter Lee [Lee]. All serious work here is his and was extremely patiently explained by him to DBN. Page design by the latter.
2. The proof presented here is broken. Specifically, at the very end of the proof of the “general case” of Proposition 1 the sum that makes up  $\ker \pi_{p-1}$  is interchanged with  $\mu_F^{-1}$ . This is invalid; in general it is not true that  $T^{-1}(U + V) = T^{-1}(U) + T^{-1}(V)$ , when  $T$  is a linear transformation and  $U$  and  $V$  are subspaces of its target space. We thank Alexander Polishchuk for noting this gap. A handwritten non-detailed fix can be found at <http://katlas.math.toronto.edu/drorbn/AcademicPensieve/Projects/Quadraticity/>, especially under “Oregon Handout Post Mortem”. A fuller fix will be made available at a later time.

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After  $A \mapsto A/\sqrt{k}$ , and setting  $\hbar = \frac{1}{\sqrt{k}}$ :

$$Z(\gamma) = \int_{A \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbb{R}^3, g)} \mathcal{D}A \operatorname{tr}_R \operatorname{hol}_\gamma(A) e^{\frac{i}{4\pi} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \operatorname{tr} (A \wedge dA + \frac{2}{3} A \wedge A \wedge A)} e^{CS(A)}$$

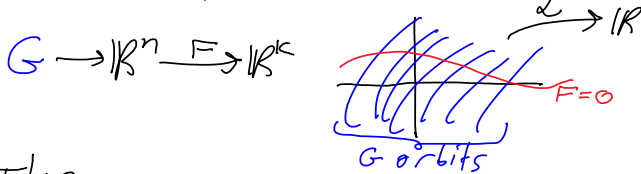
where  $\operatorname{tr}_R \operatorname{hol}_\gamma(A) = \operatorname{tr}_R (1 + \hbar \int ds A(\dot{\gamma}(s)))$

Trouble? "d" is not invertible!  
 $+ \hbar^2 \int_{s_1 < s_2} A(\dot{\gamma}(s_1)) A(\dot{\gamma}(s_2)) + \dots$

Gauge Invariance:  $CS(A)$  is invariant under  $A \mapsto A + dA$ ,  $dA = -(dC + \hbar[A, C])$ ,  $C \in \mathcal{L}^0(\mathbb{R}, g)$

Back to the drawing board....

Suppose  $\mathcal{L}(x)$  on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is invariant under a  $k$ -dimensional group  $G$  w/ Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g} = \langle \mathfrak{g}_a \rangle$ , and suppose  $F: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$  is such that  $F=0$  is a section of the  $G$ -action:



Then

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} dx e^{i\phi} \sim \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} dx e^{i\phi} \delta(F(x)) \cdot \det \left( \frac{\partial F_a}{\partial g_b} \right) (x)$$

$$\sim \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} dx \int_{\mathbb{R}^k} d\phi e^{i(k + F(x) \cdot \phi)} \det \left( \frac{\partial F_a}{\partial g_b} \right) (x)$$

} Perturbation theory for determinants?

$$\det(J_0 + \hbar J_1(x)) = \det(J_0) \sum_m \hbar^m \operatorname{Tr} (\Lambda^m J_0^{-1}) \cdot (\Lambda^m J_1(x))$$

Berezin Fermionic Anti-commuting Variables:  $\int d^k c d^k C e^{i\tilde{a} J_0^{-1} c^b} \sim \det(J)$

So  $Z \sim \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} dx \int_{\mathbb{R}^k} d\phi \int d^k \bar{C} \int d^k C e^{i\mathcal{L}_{tot}}$  where

$$\mathcal{L}_{tot} = \underbrace{\mathcal{L}(x)}_{\text{the original}} + \underbrace{F(x) \cdot \phi}_{\text{gauge-fixing}} + \underbrace{\bar{C}_a \left( \frac{\partial F_a}{\partial g_b} \right) C^b}_{\text{"ghosts"}}$$

In Chern-Simons, w/  $F(A) := d^*A = \partial_i A^i$ , get

$$\mathcal{L}_{tot} = \frac{k}{4\pi} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \operatorname{tr} (A \wedge dA + \frac{2}{3} A \wedge A \wedge A + \partial_i \bar{C} A^i + \bar{C} \partial_i (\partial^i + \operatorname{ad} A^i) C)$$

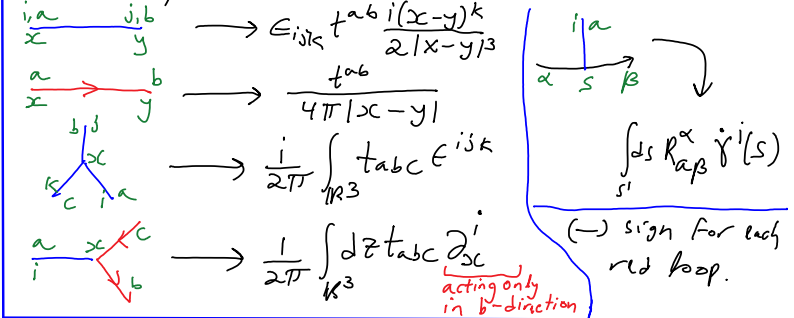
So we have

- \* A bosonic quadratic term involving  $\left( \frac{A}{\partial} \right)$ .
- \* A fermionic quadratic term involving  $\bar{C}, C$ .
- \* A cubic interaction of 3 A's.
- \* A cubic  $A\bar{C}C$  vertex.
- \* Funny A and  $\gamma$  "holonomy" vertices along  $\gamma$ .

After much crunching:

$$Z(\gamma) = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \hbar^m \sum_{\text{Feynman diags } D} \mathfrak{F}(D) \mathcal{D} =$$

where  $\mathfrak{F}(D)$  is constructed as follows:



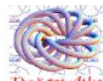
By a bit of a miracle, this boils down to a configuration space integral, which in itself can be reduced to a pre-image count.  
 ... But I run out of steam for tonight...



Banks like knots.



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



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**Definition.** A knot invariant is any function whose domain is {knots}. Really, we mean a computable function whose target space is understandable; e.g.

$$C: \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Knots} \\ \text{with } \chi_1 = \chi_2 \end{array} \right\} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}[z]$$

**Example.** The Conway polynomial is given by

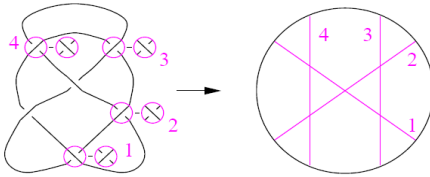
$$C(\text{crossing}) - C(\text{smoothing}) = z C(\text{other crossing})$$

$$\text{and } C(\text{link with } k \text{ crossings}) = \begin{cases} 1 & k=1 \\ 0 & k>1 \end{cases}$$

**Exercise.** Pick your favourite bank and compute the Conway polynomial of its logo.



**Definition.** Any  $V: \{\text{knots}\} \rightarrow \text{Abelian Group } A$  can be extended to "knots w/ double points" using  $V(\text{crossing}) = V(\text{smoothing}) - V(\text{other smoothing})$ . (Think "differentiation")



**Definition.**  $V$  is of type  $m$  if always  $V(\text{link with } m+1 \text{ crossings}) = 0$  (think "polynomial")

$$V(\text{link with } m+1 \text{ crossings}) = 0$$

**Conjecture.** Finite type invariants separate knots.

**Theorem.** If  $C(k) = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} V_m(k) z^m$  then  $V_m$  is of type  $m$ .

**Proof.**  $C(\text{crossing}) = C(\text{smoothing}) - C(\text{other smoothing}) = z C(\text{other crossing}) \square$

Let  $V$  be of type  $m$ ; then  $V^{(m)}$  is constant:

$$V(\text{link with } m \text{ crossings}) = V(\text{link with } m-1 \text{ crossings})$$

So  $W_V := V^{(m)} = V|_{\text{m-singular knots}}$  is really a function on  $m$ -chord diagrams:  $W_V: \{\text{m-chord diagrams}\} \rightarrow A$

**Claim.**  $W_V$  satisfies the 4T relation:

$W_V(\text{diagram 1}) - W_V(\text{diagram 2}) - W_V(\text{diagram 3}) + W_V(\text{diagram 4}) = 0$

$$W_V(\text{diagram 1}) - W_V(\text{diagram 2}) - W_V(\text{diagram 3}) + W_V(\text{diagram 4}) = 0$$

**Proof.**  $V(\text{link with } m-2 \text{ crossings}) = V(\text{link with } m-2 \text{ crossings}) \square$

**Exercise for Lecture 2.** Use  $\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} e^{-x^2/2} = \sqrt{2\pi}$ , Fubini's theorem, and polar coordinates to compute  $\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} e^{-||x||^2/2} dx$  in two different ways and hence to deduce the volume of  $S^{n-1}$ , the  $(n-1)$ -dimensional sphere.

**Exercise.** 1. Determine the "weight system"  $W_m$  of the  $m$ -th coefficient of the Conway polynomial and verify that it satisfies 4T. 2. Learn somewhere about the Jones polynomial, and do the same for its coefficients.

**Theorem. (The Fundamental Theorem)**

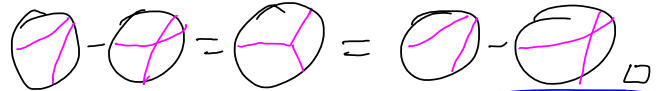
Every "weight system", i.e. every linear functional  $W$  on  $\mathcal{A} := \{\text{chord diagrams}\} / 4T$  is the  $m$ th derivative of a type  $m$  invariant:  $\forall W \exists V$  s.t.  $W = W_V$



$m$	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
$\dim \mathcal{A}_m^r$	1	0	1	1	3	4	9	14	27	44	80	132	232
$\dim \mathcal{A}_m$	1	1	2	3	6	10	19	33	60	104	184	316	548
$\dim \mathcal{P}_m$	0	1	1	1	2	3	5	8	12	18	27	39	55

**Theorem.**  $\mathcal{A}^{\text{today}} \cong \mathcal{A}^{\text{Monday}}$

**Proof**



**Proposition.** The fundamental theorem holds iff there exists an expansion:  $Z: \mathcal{K} \rightarrow \hat{\mathcal{A}}$  s.t. if  $K$  is  $m$ -singular, then  $Z(K) = D_K + \text{higher degrees}$ .

**Proof.**  $\mathcal{K} \xrightarrow{Z} \hat{\mathcal{A}}$   
 $\downarrow W$   
 $\mathcal{Q} \square$

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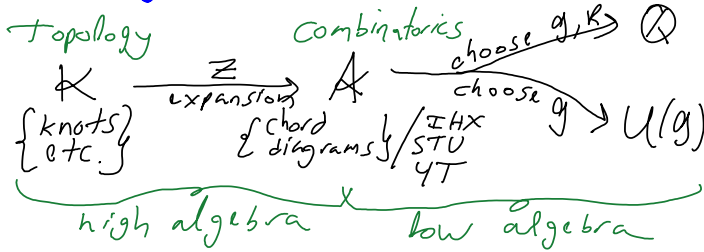
KnotTheory
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  ], Center
] & / AllKnots[{0, 7}]

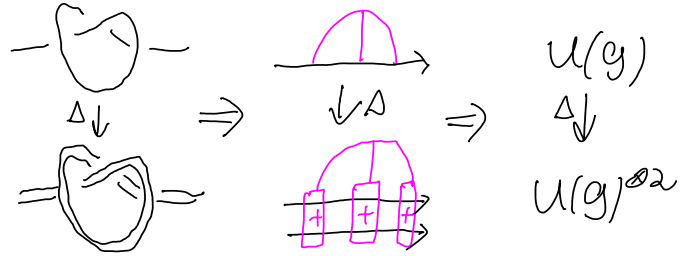
KnotTheory::loading: Loading precomputed data in PD4Knots.
    
```

Also see my old paper, "On the Vassiliev knot invariants" (google will find...)

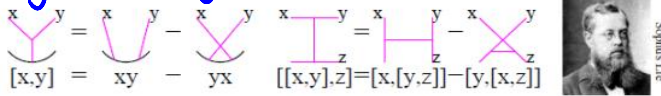
The big picture, "u" case.



What's Δ?



Very low algebra.



More precisely, let  $\mathfrak{g} = \langle X_\alpha \rangle$  be a Lie algebra with an orthonormal basis, and let  $R = \langle v_\alpha \rangle$  be a representation.

Set  $f_{abc} := \langle [a, b], c \rangle$  and  $X_\alpha v_\beta = \sum_\gamma r_{\alpha\gamma}^\beta v_\gamma$  and then

$$W_{\mathfrak{g}, R} : \begin{matrix} \gamma & & \beta \\ & \searrow & / \\ & a & \\ & / & \searrow \\ \alpha & & \end{matrix} \longrightarrow \sum_{abc\alpha\beta\gamma} f_{abc} r_{a\gamma}^\beta r_{b\alpha}^\gamma r_{c\beta}^\alpha$$

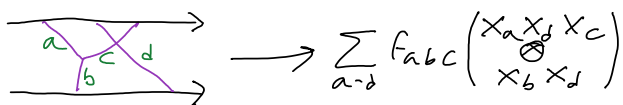
Exercise. Find a fast method to find  $W_{\mathfrak{g}, R}(D)$  when  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{gl}_n$ ,  $R = \mathbb{R}^n$ . Is it related to the Conway polynomial?

Universal Representation Theory.

Inspired by  $p([x, y]) = p(x)p(y) - p(y)p(x)$ , set  $U(\mathfrak{g}) = \langle \text{words in } \mathfrak{g} \rangle / [x, y] = xy - yx$ .  
 \* Every rep of  $\mathfrak{g}$  extends to  $U(\mathfrak{g})$ .  
 \*  $\exists \Delta: U(\mathfrak{g}) \rightarrow U(\mathfrak{g})^{\otimes 2}$  by "word splitting", as must be for  $R \otimes R$ .

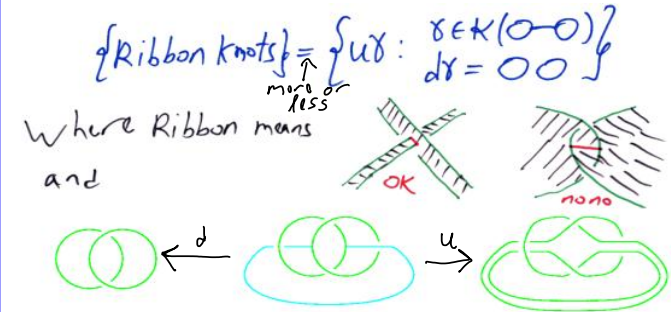
Exercise. With  $\mathfrak{g} = \langle x, y \rangle / [x, y] = x$ , determine  $U(\mathfrak{g})$ . Guess a generalization.

Low algebra.  $A(\uparrow) \rightarrow U(\mathfrak{g})^{\otimes 2}$  via

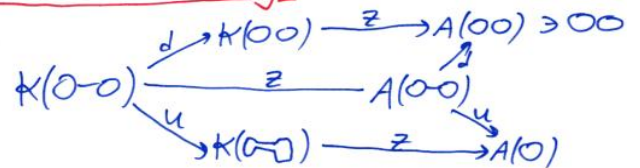


& likewise,  $A(\uparrow_n) \rightarrow U(\mathfrak{g})^{\otimes n} \Rightarrow A(\uparrow_n)$  is "universal universal rep. theory"!

A "Homomorphic Expansion"  $Z: \mathcal{K} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  is an expansion that intertwines all relevant algebraic ops. If  $\mathcal{K}$  is finitely presented, finding  $Z$  is High Algebra.



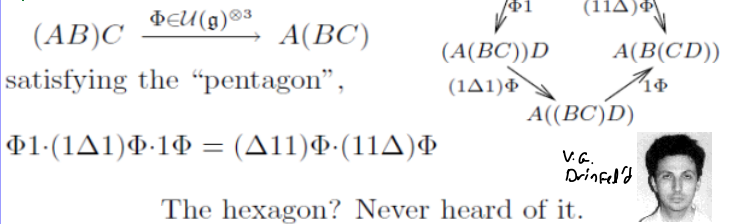
Algebraic knot theory:



So  $Z(\{\text{Ribbon knots}\}) \subset \{u\alpha : \alpha = Z(O-O)\} \subset A(O-O)$

$\forall \alpha \left[ \begin{matrix} \oplus \\ \oplus \\ \oplus \end{matrix} \right] = 0$ , follows from  $\begin{matrix} \backslash \\ \oplus \\ / \end{matrix} = \begin{matrix} \backslash \\ \oplus \\ / \end{matrix}$

An Associator: Quantum Algebra's "root object"



The hexagon? Never heard of it. See Also. B-N & Dancso, arXiv: 1103.1896

# Facts and Dreams About v-Knots and Etingof-Kazhdan, 1

Dror Bar-Natan at Swiss Knots 2011

<http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Talks/SwissKnots-1105/Foots & refs on PDF version, page 3.>

This is an overview with too many and not enough details. I apologize.

**Abstract.** I will describe, to the best of my understanding, the relationship between virtual knots and the Etingof-Kazhdan [EK] quantization of Lie bialgebras, and explain why, IMHO, both topologists and algebraists should care. I am not happy yet about the state of my understanding of the subject but I haven't lost hope of achieving happiness, one day.

**Abstract Generalities.**  $(K, I)$ : an algebra and an "augmentation ideal" in it.  $\hat{K} := \varprojlim K/I^m$  the " $I$ -adic completion".  $\text{gr}_I K := \widehat{\bigoplus} I^m/I^{m+1}$  has a product  $\mu$ , especially,  $\mu_{11}: (C = I/I^2)^{\otimes 2} \rightarrow I^2/I^3$ . The "quadratic approximation"  $\mathcal{A}_I(K) := \overline{FC}/\langle \ker \mu_{11} \rangle$  of  $K$  surjects using  $\mu$  on  $\text{gr } K$ .

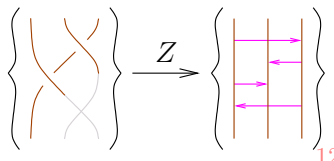


Peter Lee

**The Prized Object.** A "homomorphic  $\mathcal{A}$ -expansion": a homomorphic filtered  $Z: K \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  for which  $\text{gr } Z: \text{gr } K \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  inverts  $\mu$ .

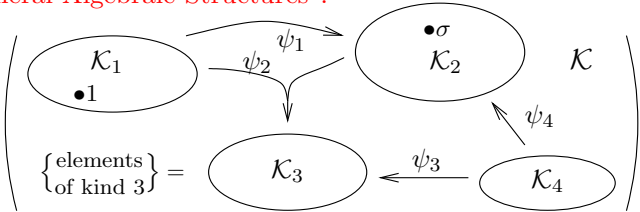
**Dror's Dream.** All interesting graded objects and equations, especially those around quantum groups, arise this way. 6

**Example 2.** For  $K = \mathbb{Q}PvB_n =$  "braids when you look", [Lee] shows that a non-homomorphic  $Z$  exists. [BEER]: there is no homomorphic one.



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## General Algebraic Structures<sup>1</sup>.



- Has kinds, elements, operations, and maybe constants. All still
- Must have "the free structure over some generators".
- We always allow formal linear combinations. 14 works!

**Example 3.** Quandle: a set  $K$  with an op  $\wedge$  s.t.

$$1 \wedge x = 1, \quad x \wedge 1 = x = x \wedge x, \quad (\text{appetizers})$$

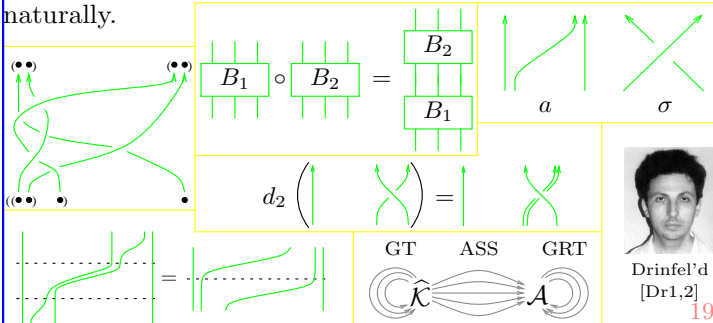
$$(x \wedge y) \wedge z = (x \wedge z) \wedge (y \wedge z). \quad (\text{main})$$

$\mathcal{A}(K)$  is a graded Leibniz<sup>2</sup> algebra: Roughly, set  $\bar{v} := (v-1)$  (these generate  $I$ !), feed  $1 + \bar{x}, 1 + \bar{y}, 1 + \bar{z}$  in (main), collect the surviving terms of lowest degree:

$$(\bar{x} \wedge \bar{y}) \wedge \bar{z} = (\bar{x} \wedge \bar{z}) \wedge \bar{y} + \bar{x} \wedge (\bar{y} \wedge \bar{z}).$$

15

**Example 4.** Parenthesized braids make a category with some extra operations. An expansion is the same thing as an  $A_n$ -associator, and the Grothendieck-Teichmüller story<sup>3</sup> arises naturally.

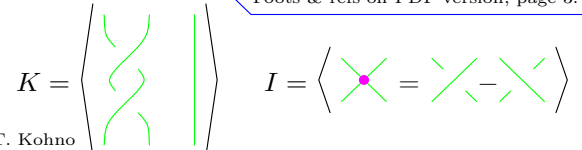


Drinfel'd [Dr1,2] 19

## Example 1.



T. Kohno



$$(K/I^{m+1})^* = (\text{invariants of type } m) =: \mathcal{V}_m$$

$$(I^m/I^{m+1})^* = \mathcal{V}_m/\mathcal{V}_{m-1} \quad C = \langle t^{ij} | t^{ij} = t^{ji} \rangle = \langle \text{HH} \rangle$$

$$\ker \mu_{11} = \langle [t^{ij}, t^{kl}] = 0 = [t^{ij}, t^{ik} + t^{jk}] \rangle = \langle 4T \text{ relations} \rangle$$

$$\mathcal{A} = A_n = \left( \text{horizontal chord dia-grams mod } 4T \right) = \langle \text{HHHH} \rangle / 4T$$

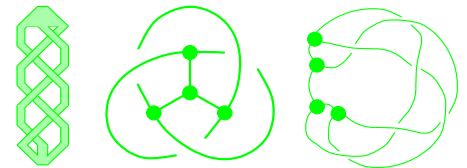
$Z$ : universal finite type invariant, the Kontsevich integral. 9

**Why Prized?** Sizes  $K$  and shows it "as big" as  $\mathcal{A}$ ; reduces "topological" questions to quadratic algebra questions; gives life and meaning to questions in graded algebra; universalizes those more than "universal enveloping algebras" and allows for richer quotients. 11

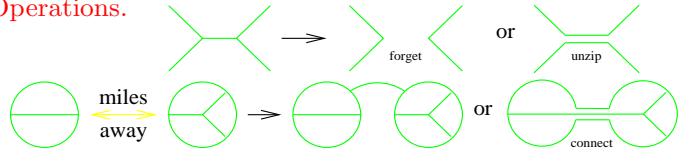
## Example 5 - Knotted Trivalent Graphs.



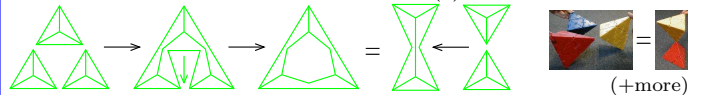
D. Thurston [Th]



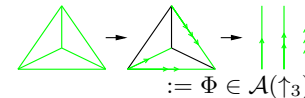
## Operations.



**Presentation.** KTG is generated by ribbon twists and the tetrahedron  $\Delta$ , modulo the relation(s):

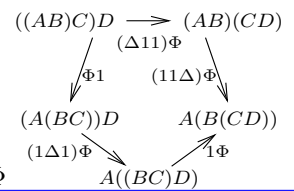


**Claim.** With  $\Phi := Z(\Delta)$ , the above relation becomes equivalent to the Drinfel'd's pentagon of the theory of quasi-Hopf algebras.



## A $\mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g})$ -Associator:

$$(AB)C \xrightarrow{\Phi \in \mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g})^{\otimes 3}} A(BC)$$



satisfying the "pentagon",  $\Phi \cdot (1\Delta 1)\Phi \cdot 1\Phi = (\Delta 11)\Phi \cdot (11\Delta)\Phi$

$$\mathcal{A}(\uparrow_2) := \langle \text{trivalent graphs} \rangle / \text{AS, } (\text{deg} = \frac{1}{2} \# \{ \text{trivalent vertices} \}) \xrightarrow[\mathfrak{g} = \langle X_a \rangle]{\text{Given a metrized } \mathfrak{g}} \mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g})^{\otimes 2}$$

$$\sum_{a,b,c,d,e,f=1}^{\dim \mathfrak{g}} f_{abc} f_{dce} X_a X_d X_f \otimes X_b X_f X_e$$



Penrose




Cvitanovic

25

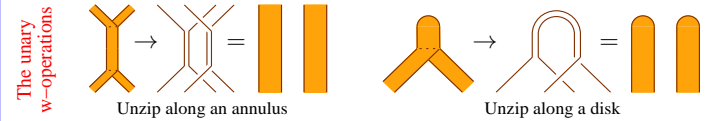
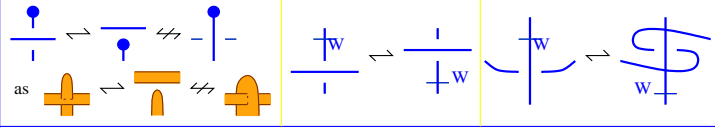
**Facts and Dreams About v-Knots and Etingof-Kazhdan, 2**

**Example 6 - Ribbon 2-Knots.**

Also, "movies of flying rings": 



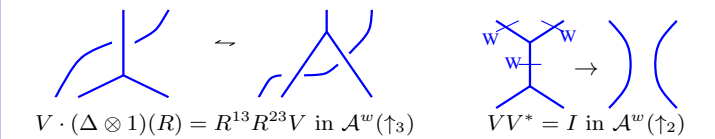
The w-relations include R234, VR1234, D, Overcrossings Commute (OC) but not UC:



**Trivalent w-Tangles.**

$$wTT = PA \left\langle \begin{array}{c} w- \\ \text{generators} \end{array} \middle| \begin{array}{c} w- \\ \text{relations} \end{array} \middle| \begin{array}{c} \text{unary } w- \\ \text{operations} \end{array} \right\rangle = CA \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \text{same} \\ w/o \times \end{array} \right\rangle$$

**Theorem.** There exists a homomorphic expansion Z for wTT. In particular, Z respects R4 and intertwines annulus and disk unzips:



**Alekseev-Torossian [AT]** (equivalent to Kashiwara-Vergne [KV]). There are elements  $F \in \text{TAut}_2$  and  $a \in \mathfrak{t}_1$  such that

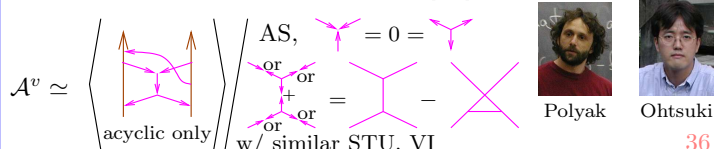
$$F(x+y) = \log e^x e^y \quad \text{and} \quad jF = a(x) + a(y) - a(\log e^x e^y).$$

**Theorem.** That's equivalent to a homomorphic expansion for wTT.

**The Main Example.**

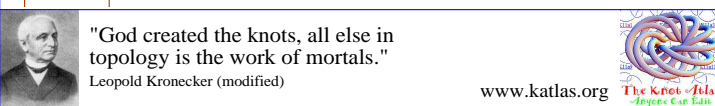
$$vTT = PA \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \text{diagrams} \\ \text{yet not UC, OC} \end{array} \middle| \begin{array}{c} \text{R234, VR234, D,} \\ \text{yet not UC, OC} \end{array} \middle| \text{unzips} \right\rangle = \widetilde{CA} \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \text{same} \\ w/o \times \end{array} \right\rangle$$

**The Polyak-Ohtsuki Description of  $\mathcal{A}^v$  [Po].**



$\mathcal{A}^v$  pairs with Lie bialgebras. Let  $\mathfrak{g}_+$  be a Lie bialgebra with basis  $X_a$ , bracket  $[\cdot, \cdot]$ , cobracket  $\delta$ , dual  $\mathfrak{g}_- = \mathfrak{g}_+^*$ , dual basis  $X^a$  for  $\mathfrak{g}_-$ , double  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}_+ \oplus \mathfrak{g}_-$ , structure constants  $[X_a, X_b] = \sum b_{ab}^c X_c$  and co-structure constants  $\delta(X_a) = \sum c_{ab}^c X_b \otimes X_c$ . Then

$$\sum_{a,b,c,d,e,f=1}^{\dim \mathfrak{g}} b_{de}^c b_{ac}^a X_a X^d X_f \otimes X_b X^e X^c \in \mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g})^{\otimes 2}$$



**Forbidden Theorem [EK, Ha, ?].** There exists a homomorphic expansion Z for vTT.

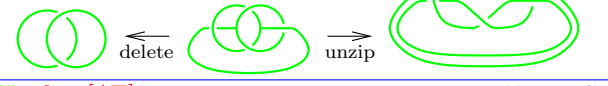
**Why Forbidden (to me)?**

- Minor statement details may be off.
- No fully written proof.
- I don't understand the proof.
- There isn't yet a knot-theoretic view of the proof, like there is in the w-case.

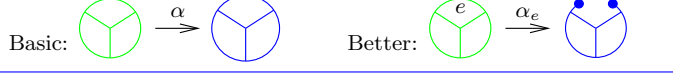


**Why Should We Care?**

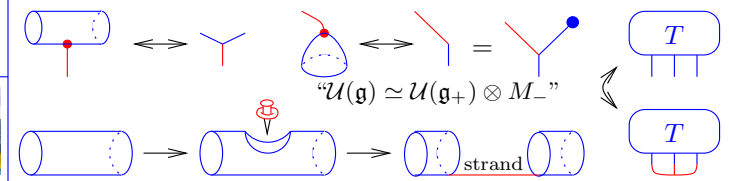
- A gateway into the forbidden territory of "quantum groups".
- Abstractly more pleasing: We study the things, and not just their representations.
- $\mathcal{A}^v$  is sometimes easier than  $\mathcal{A}^u$ : Alexander, say, arises easily from the 2D Lie algebra<sup>4</sup>.
- Potentially,  $\mathcal{A}^v$  has many more "internal quotients" than there are Lie bialgebras. What are they and what are the corresponding theories?
- My old<sup>5</sup> Algebraic Knot Theory dream:





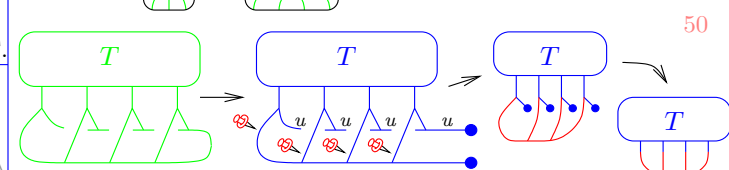
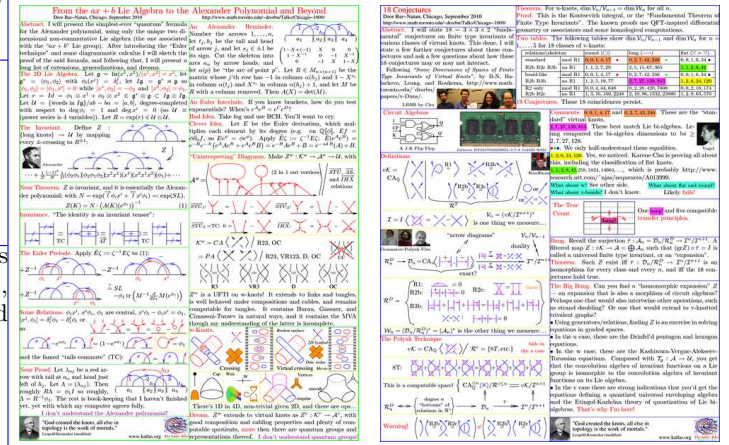
$V \rightarrow \Phi$ -loop after [AT]. "cut and cap" is well-defined(!) on  $\mathcal{K}^u$



$\Phi \rightarrow V$  after [AET]. In  $\mathcal{K}^w$  allow tubes and strand-vertices, allow "punctures", yet allow no "tangles".



The generators of  $\mathcal{K}^w$  can be written in terms of the generators of  $\mathcal{K}^u$  (i.e., given  $\Phi$ , can write a formula for V). With T any classical tangle, esp.  or , consider the "sled"

Alexander is easy! In Chicago, [BN4] Many kinds of virtuals!

**Help Needed!**



## Footnotes

1. I probably mean “a functor from some fixed “structure multi-category” to the multi-category of sets, extended to formal linear combinations”.
2. A Leibniz algebra is a Lie algebra minus the anti-symmetry of the bracket; I have previously erroneously asserted that here  $\mathcal{A}(K)$  is Lie; however see the comment by Conant attached to this talk’s video page.
3. See my paper [BN1] and my talk/handout/video [BN3].
4. See [BN5] and my talk/handout/video [BN4].
5. Not so old and not quite written up. Yet see [BN2].

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- [Th] D. P. Thurston, *The Algebra of Knotted Trivalent Graphs and Turaev’s Shadow World*, Geometry & Topology Monographs **4** (2002) 337–362, arXiv:math.GT/0311458.

## Plan

1. (8 minutes) The Peter Lee setup for  $(K, I)$ , “all interesting graded equations arise in this way”.
2. (3 minutes) Example: the pure braid group (mention  $PvB$ , too).
3. (3 minutes) Generalized algebraic structures.
4. (1 minute) Example: quandles.
5. (4 minutes) Example: parenthesized braids and horizontal associators.
6. (6 minutes) Example: KTGs and non-horizontal associators. (“Bracket rise” arises here).
7. (8 minutes) Example:  $wKO$ ’s and the Kashiwara-Vergne equations.
8. (12 minutes)  $vKO$ ’s, bi-algebras, E-K, what would it mean to find an expansion, why I care (stronger invariant, more interesting quotients).
9. (5 minutes)  $wKO$ ’s,  $uKO$ ’s, and Alekseev-Enriquez-Torossian.

# Cosmic Coincidences and Several Other Stories, 1

Dror Bar-Natan at the University of Tennessee  
 March 4, 2011, <http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Talks/Tennessee-1103/>

**Abstract.** In the first half of my talk I will tell a cute and simple story — how given a knot in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  one may count all possible “cosmic coincidences” associated with that knot, and how this count, appropriately packaged, becomes an invariant  $Z$  with values in some space  $\mathcal{A}$  of linear combinations of certain trivalent graphs.

In the second half of my talk I will describe (rather sketchily, I'm afraid) a part of the story surrounding  $Z$  and  $\mathcal{A}$ : How the same  $Z$  also comes from quantum field theory, Feynman diagrams, and configuration space integrals. How  $\mathcal{A}$  is a space of universal formulas which make sense in every metrized Lie algebra and how specific choices for that Lie algebra correspond to various famed knot invariants. How  $Z$  solves a universal topological problem, and how solving for  $Z$  is solving some universal Lie-algebraic problem. All together, this is the  $u$ -story.

In the remaining time I will mention several other  $Z$ 's and  $\mathcal{A}$ 's and the parallel (yet sometimes interwoven) stories surrounding them — the  $v$ -story, and  $w$ -story, and perhaps also the  $p$ -story. Each of these stories is clearly still missing some chapters.

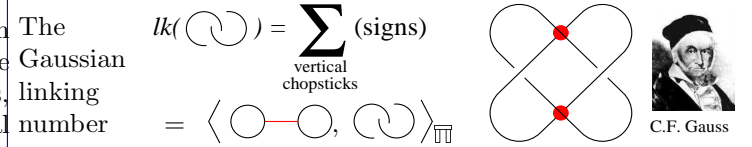
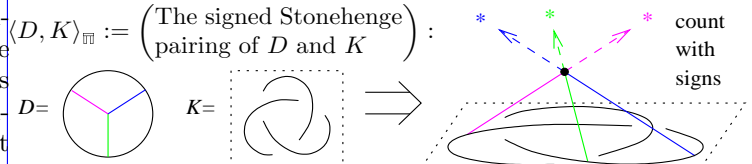
Creation of Adam



Michelangelo

### Disclaimer

We'll concentrate on the beauty and ignore the cracks.



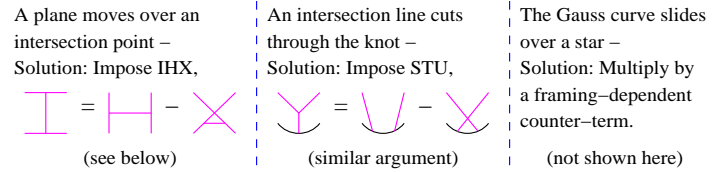
The generating function of all cosmic coincidences:

$$Z(K) := \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{\text{3-valent } D} \frac{\langle D, K \rangle_{\mathbb{R}} D}{2^e c! \binom{N}{e}} \cdot \left( \begin{array}{l} \text{framing-} \\ \text{dependent} \\ \text{counter-term} \end{array} \right) \in \mathcal{A}(\odot)$$

$N := \#$  of stars  
 $c := \#$  of chopsticks  
 $e := \#$  of edges of  $D$

$\mathcal{A}(\odot) := \text{Span} \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \text{[Diagram of a square with a star inside]} \end{array} \right\rangle / \text{oriented vertices AS: } \begin{array}{c} \text{[Diagram of a star]} + \text{[Diagram of a star]} = 0 \end{array} \text{ \& more relations}$

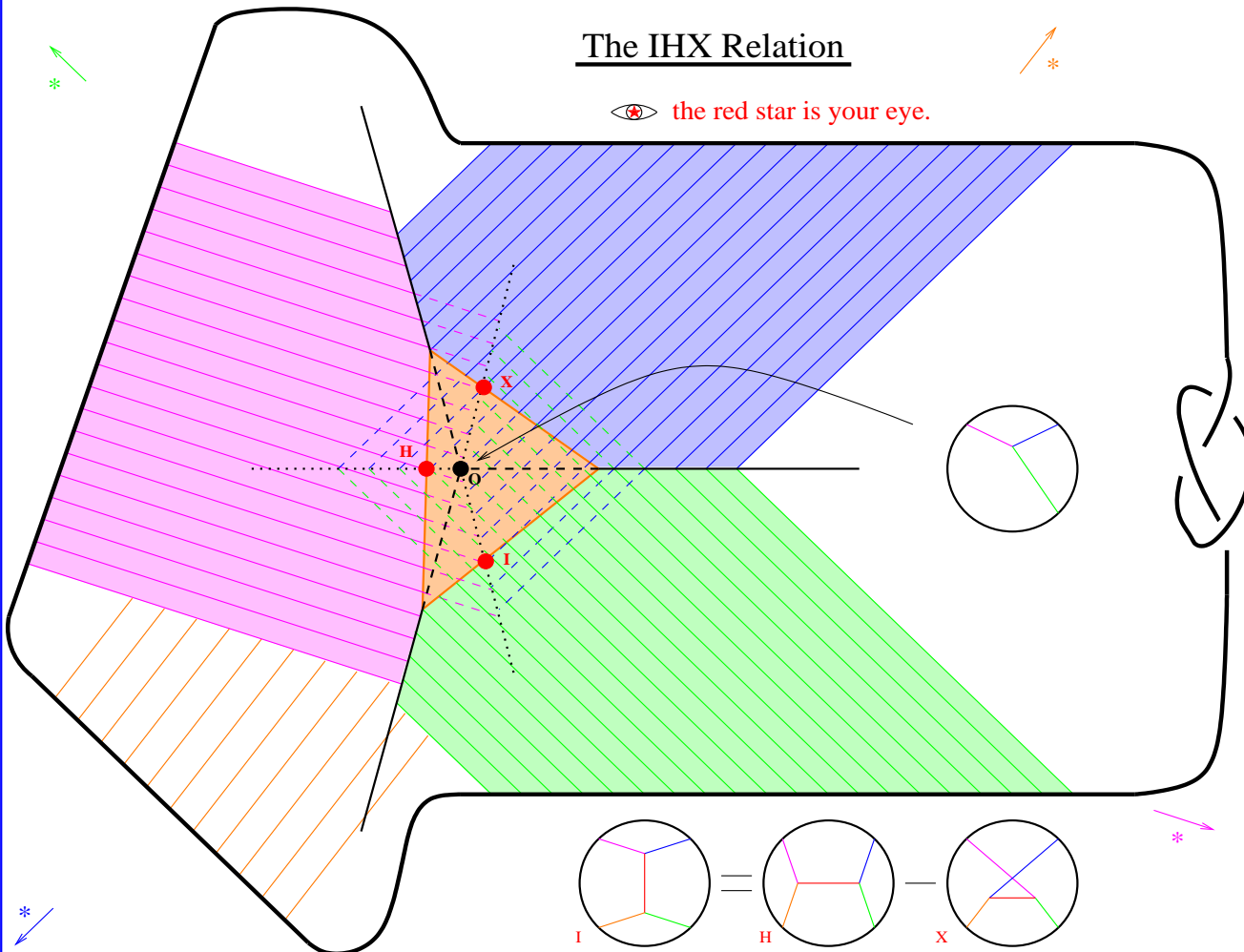
When deforming, catastrophes occur when:



**Theorem.** Modulo Relations,  $Z(K)$  is a knot invariant!

## The IHX Relation

the red star is your eye.



The Cast in rough historical order



The Neolithic People

Carl Friedrich Gauss  
 Edward Witten  
 Victor Vassiliev  
 Mikhail Goussarov



Maxim Kontsevich



Raoul Bott



Clifford Taubes



Thang Le



Jun Murakami



Tomotada Ohtsuki

# Cosmic Coincidences and Several Other Stories, 2

## "Low Algebra" and universal formulae in Lie algebras.

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \begin{array}{c} x \quad y \\ \diagdown \quad / \\ \text{---} \\ / \quad \diagdown \\ x \quad y \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} x \quad y \\ \diagdown \quad / \\ \text{---} \\ / \quad \diagdown \\ x \quad y \end{array} - \begin{array}{c} x \quad y \\ \diagdown \quad / \\ \text{---} \\ / \quad \diagdown \\ x \quad y \end{array} \\
 [x,y] = xy - yx
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{c}
 \begin{array}{c} x \quad y \\ \diagdown \quad / \\ \text{---} \\ / \quad \diagdown \\ x \quad y \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} x \quad y \\ \diagdown \quad / \\ \text{---} \\ / \quad \diagdown \\ x \quad y \end{array} - \begin{array}{c} x \quad y \\ \diagdown \quad / \\ \text{---} \\ / \quad \diagdown \\ x \quad y \end{array} \\
 [[x,y],z] = [x,[y,z]] - [y,[x,z]]
 \end{array}$$



More precisely, let  $\mathfrak{g} = \langle X_a \rangle$  be a Lie algebra with an orthonormal basis, and let  $R = \langle v_\alpha \rangle$  be a representation. Set

$$f_{abc} := \langle [X_a, X_c], X_b \rangle \quad X_a v_\beta = \sum_\gamma r_{a\gamma}^\beta v_\gamma$$

and then

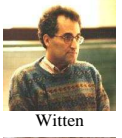
$$W_{\mathfrak{g},R} : \begin{array}{c} \gamma \quad \beta \\ \diagdown \quad / \\ \text{---} \\ / \quad \diagdown \\ \alpha \end{array} \longrightarrow \sum_{\alpha\beta\gamma} f_{abc} r_{a\gamma}^\beta r_{b\alpha}^\gamma r_{c\beta}^\alpha$$

$W_{\mathfrak{g},R} \circ Z$  is often interesting:

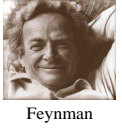
- $\mathfrak{g} = sl(2)$  The Jones polynomial
- $\mathfrak{g} = sl(N)$  The HOMFLYPT polynomial
- $\mathfrak{g} = so(N)$  The Kauffman polynomial

## Chern-Simons-Witten theory and Feynman diagrams.

$$\int_{\mathfrak{g}\text{-connections}} \mathcal{D}A \exp \left[ \frac{ik}{4\pi} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \text{tr} \left( A \wedge dA + \frac{2}{3} A \wedge A \wedge A \right) \right]$$



$$\longrightarrow \sum_{D: \text{Feynman diagram}} W_{\mathfrak{g}}(D) \mathcal{E}(D) \longrightarrow \sum_{D: \text{Feynman diagram}} D \mathcal{E}(D)$$



**Definition.**  $V$  is finite type (Vassiliev, Goussarov) if it vanishes on sufficiently large alternations as on the right

**Theorem.** All knot polynomials (Conway, Jones, etc.) are of finite type.

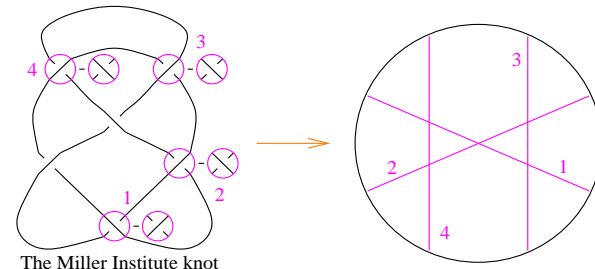
**Conjecture.** (Taylor's theorem) Finite type invariants separate knots.

**Theorem.**  $Z(K)$  is a universal finite type invariant!

(sketch: to dance in many parties, you need many feet).



Vassiliev



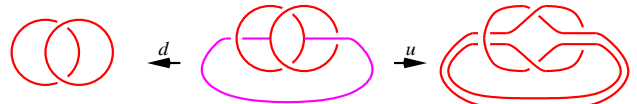
The Miller Institute knot



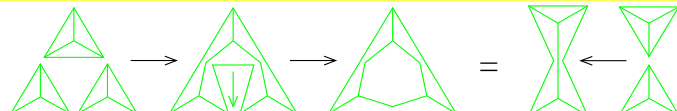
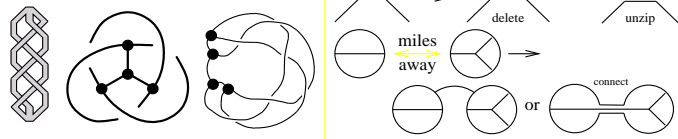
Goussarov

**Knots are the wrong objects to study in knot theory!**  
 They are not finitely generated and they carry no interesting operations.

Algebraic Knot Theory



## Knotted Trivalent Graphs



**Theorem** ( $\sim$ , "High Algebra"). A homomorphic  $Z$  is the same as a "Drinfel'd Associator".



Drinfel'd

## The $u \rightarrow v \rightarrow w$ & $p$ Stories

explained sketched could explain could explain, gaps remain more gaps than explains mystery

	Topology	Combinatorics	Low Algebra	High Algebra	Counting Coincidences Conf. Space Integrals	Quantum Field Theory	Graph Homology
<b>u-Knots</b>	The usual Knotted Objects (KOs) in 3D — braids, knots, links, tangles, knotted graphs, etc.	Chord diagrams and Jacobi diagrams, modulo $4T$ , $STU$ , $IHX$ , etc.	Finite dimensional metrized Lie algebras, representations, and associated spaces.	The Drinfel'd theory of associators.	Today's work. Not beautifully written, and some detour-forcing cracks remain.	Perturbative Chern-Simons-Witten theory.	The "original" graph homology.
<b>v-Knots</b>	Virtual KOs — "algebraic", "not embedded"; KOs drawn on a surface, mod stabilization.	Arrow diagrams and v-Jacobi diagrams, modulo $6T$ and various "directed" $STUs$ and $IHXs$ , etc.	Finite dimensional Lie bi-algebras, representations, and associated spaces.	Likely, quantum groups and the Etingof-Kazhdan theory of quantization of Lie bi-algebras.	No clue.	No clue.	No clue.
<b>w-Knots</b>	Ribbon 2D KOs in 4D; "flying rings". Like v, but also with "overcrossings commute".	Like v, but also with "tails commute". Only "two in one out" internal vertices.	Finite dimensional co-commutative Lie bi-algebras ( $\mathfrak{g} \times \mathfrak{g}^*$ ), representations, and associated spaces.	The Kashiwara-Vergne-Alekseev-Torossian theory of convolutions on Lie groups / algebras.	No clue.	Probably related to 4D BF theory.	Studied.
<b>p-Objects</b>	No clue.	"Acrobat towers" with 2-in many-out vertices.	Poisson structures.	Deformation quantization of poisson manifolds.	Configuration space integrals are key, but they don't reduce to counting.	Work of Cattaneo.	Studied. Hyperbolic geometry ?

# From the $ax + b$ Lie Algebra to the Alexander Polynomial and Beyond

Dror Bar-Natan, Chicago, September 2010

http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Talks/Chicago-1009/

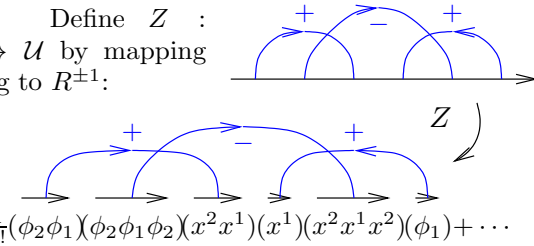
**Abstract.** I will present the simplest-ever “quantum” formula for the Alexander polynomial, using only the unique two dimensional non-commutative Lie algebra (the one associated with the “ $ax + b$ ” Lie group). After introducing the “Euler technique” and some diagrammatic calculus I will sketch the proof of the said formula, and following that, I will present a long list of extensions, generalizations, and dreams.

**The 2D Lie Algebra.** Let  $\mathfrak{g} = \text{lie}(x^1, x^2)/[x^1, x^2] = x^2$ , let  $\mathfrak{g}^* = \langle \phi_1, \phi_2 \rangle$  with  $\phi_i(x^j) = \delta_i^j$ , let  $I\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}^* \rtimes \mathfrak{g}$  so  $[\phi_i, \phi_j] = [\phi_i, x^i] = 0$  while  $[x^1, \phi_2] = -\phi_2$  and  $[x^2, \phi_2] = \phi_1$ . Let  $r = Id = \phi_1 \otimes x^1 + \phi_2 \otimes x^2 \in \mathfrak{g}^* \otimes \mathfrak{g} \subset I\mathfrak{g} \otimes I\mathfrak{g}$ . Let  $\mathcal{U} = \{\text{words in } I\mathfrak{g}\}/ab - ba = [a, b]$ , degree-completed with respect to  $\deg \phi_i = 1$  and  $\deg x^i = 0$  (so  $\mathcal{U} \equiv$  (power series in 4 variables)). Let  $R = \exp(r) \in \mathcal{U} \otimes \mathcal{U}$ .

**The Invariant.** Define  $Z : \{\text{long knots}\} \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$  by mapping every  $\pm$ -crossing to  $R^{\pm 1}$ :



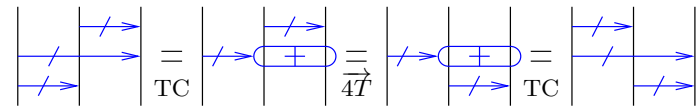
Alexander



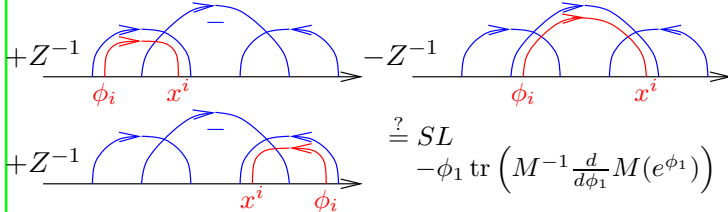
**Near Theorem.**  $Z$  is invariant, and it is essentially the Alexander polynomial; with  $N = \exp(\overleftarrow{t} \phi_i x^i + \overrightarrow{t} x^i \phi_i) =: \exp(SL)$ ,

$$Z(K) = N \cdot (A(K)(e^{\phi_1}))^{-1} \quad (1)$$

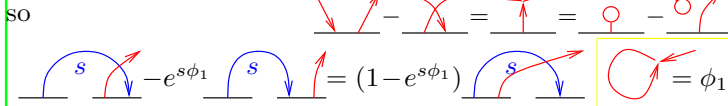
**Invariance.** “The identity is an invariant tensor”:



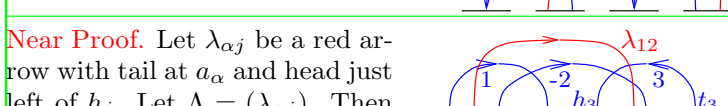
**The Euler Prelude.** Apply  $\tilde{E}\zeta := \zeta^{-1}E\zeta$  to (1):



**Some Relations.**  $\phi_i x^i, x^i \phi_i, \phi_1$  are central,  $x^i \phi_i - \phi_i x^i = \phi_1$ ,  $[x^j, \phi_i] = \delta_i^j \phi_1 - \delta_1^j \phi_i$  or



so and the famed “tails commute” (TC):



**Near Proof.** Let  $\lambda_{\alpha_j}$  be a red arrow with tail at  $a_\alpha$  and head just left of  $h_j$ . Let  $\Lambda = (\lambda_{\alpha_j})$ . Then roughly  $R\Lambda = \phi_1 I$  so roughly,  $\Lambda = R^{-1}\phi_1$ . The rest is book-keeping that I haven't finished yet, yet with which my computer agrees fully.

I don't understand the Alexander polynomial!



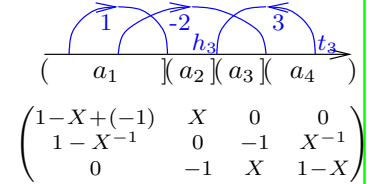
“God created the knots, all else in topology is the work of mortals.”  
Leopold Kronecker (modified)



www.katlas.org

## An Alexander Reminder.

Number the arrows  $1, \dots, n$ , let  $t_j, h_j$  be the tail and head of arrow  $j$ , and let  $s_j \in \pm 1$  be its sign. Cut the skeleton into arcs  $a_\alpha$  by arrow heads, and let  $\alpha(p)$  be “the arc of point  $p$ ”. Let  $R \in M_{n \times (n+1)}$  be the matrix whose  $j$ 'th row has  $-1$  in column  $\alpha(h_j)$  and  $1 - X^{s_j}$  in column  $\alpha(t_j)$  and  $X^{s_j}$  in column  $\alpha(h_j) + 1$ , and let  $M$  be  $R$  with a column removed. Then  $A(X) = \det(M)$ .



## An Euler Interlude.

If you know brackets, how do you test exponentials? When's  $e^A e^B = e^C e^D$ ?

## Bad Idea.

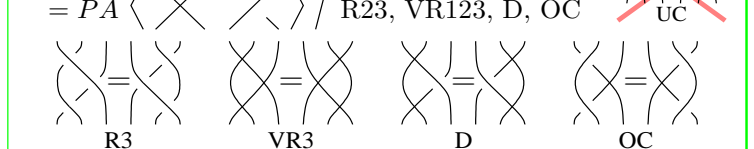
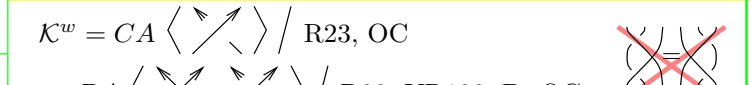
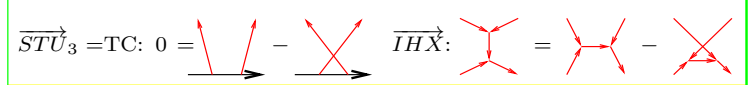
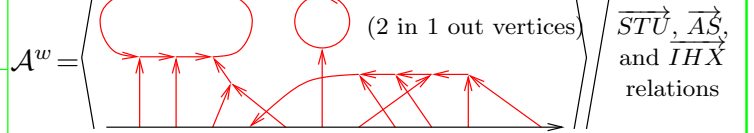
Take log and use BCH. You'll want to cry.

## Clever Idea.

Let  $E$  be the Euler derivation, which multiplies each element by its degree (e.g. on  $\mathbb{Q}[[\phi]]$ ,  $E\phi = \phi \partial_\phi \phi$ , so  $Ee^\phi = \phi e^\phi$ ). Apply  $\tilde{E}\zeta := \zeta^{-1}E\zeta$ :  $\tilde{E}(e^A e^B) = e^{-B} e^{-A} (e^A A e^B + e^A e^B B) = e^{-B} A e^B + B = e^{-\text{ad } B}(A) + B$ .

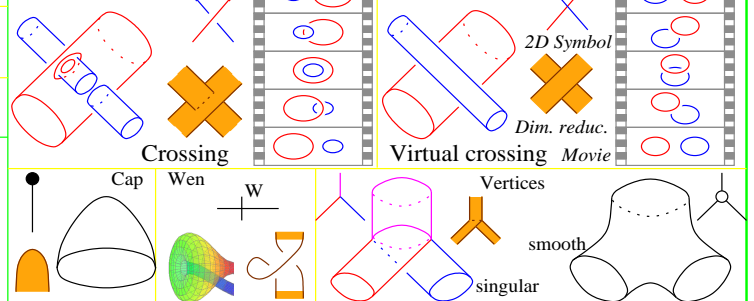
## “Uninterpreting” Diagrams.

Make  $Z^w : \mathcal{K}^w \rightarrow \mathcal{A}^w \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$ , with



$Z^w$  is a UFTI on w-knots! It extends to links and tangles, is well behaved under compositions and cables, and remains computable for tangles. It contains Burau, Gassner, and Cimasoni-Turaev in natural ways, and it contains the MVA though my understanding of the latter is incomplete.

## w-Knots.



There's 1D in 4D, non-trivial given 2D, and there are ops...

## Dream.

$Z^w$  extends to virtual knots as  $Z^v : \mathcal{K}^v \rightarrow \mathcal{A}^v$ , with good composition and cabling properties and plenty of computable quotients, more than there are quantum groups and representations thereof. I don't understand quantum groups!

# 18 Conjectures

Dror Bar-Natan, Chicago, September 2010

<http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Talks/Chicago-1009/>

**Abstract.** I will state  $18 = 3 \times 3 \times 2$  “fundamental” conjectures on finite type invariants of various classes of virtual knots. This done, I will state a few further conjectures about these conjectures and ask a few questions about how these 18 conjectures may or may not interact.

Following “Some Dimensions of Spaces of Finite Type Invariants of Virtual Knots”, by B-N, Halacheva, Leung, and Roukema, <http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/papers/v-Dims/>.

LRHB by Chu



**Theorem.** For u-knots,  $\dim \mathcal{V}_n / \mathcal{V}_{n-1} = \dim \mathcal{W}_n$  for all  $n$ .

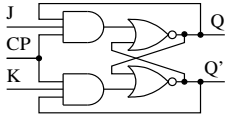
**Proof.** This is the Kontsevich integral, or the “Fundamental Theorem of Finite Type Invariants”. The known proofs use QFT-inspired differential geometry or associators and some homological computations.

**Two tables.** The following tables show  $\dim \mathcal{V}_n / \mathcal{V}_{n-1}$  and  $\dim \mathcal{W}_n$  for  $n = 1, \dots, 5$  for 18 classes of v-knots:

relations\skeleton	round (○)	long (→)	flat (× = ×)
standard	mod R1	0, 0, 1, 4, 17	0, 0, 1, 6, 34
R2b R2c R3b	no R1	1, 1, 2, 7, 29	1, 1, 2, 8, 42
braid-like	mod R1	0, 0, 1, 4, 17	0, 0, 1, 6, 34
R2b R3b	no R1	1, 2, 5, 19, 77	1, 2, 6, 24, 120
R2 only	mod R1	0, 0, 4, 44, 648	0, 0, 2, 18, 174
R2b R2c	no R1	1, 3, 16, 160, 2248	1, 2, 9, 63, 570

18 Conjectures. These 18 coincidences persist.

## Circuit Algebras



A J-K Flip Flop



Infineon HYS64T64020HDL-3.7-A 512MB RAM

**Comments.** 0, 0, 1, 4, 17 and 0, 2, 7, 42, 246. These are the “standard” virtual knots.

2, 7, 27, 139, 813. These best match Lie bi-algebra. Leung computed the bi-algebra dimensions to be  $\geq 2, 7, 27, 128$ .

•••. We only half-understand these equalities.

1, 2, 6, 24, 120. Yes, we noticed. Karene Chu is proving all about this, including the classification of flat knots.

1, 1, 2, 8, 42, 258, 1824, 14664, ... , which is probably <http://www.research.att.com/~njas/sequences/A013999>.

What about w? See other side.

What about flat and round?

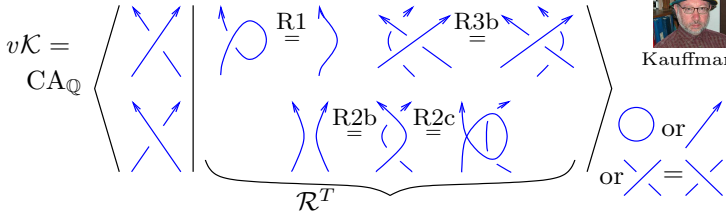
What about v-braids? I don't know.

Likely fails!



Vogel

## Definitions

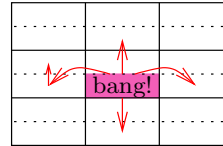


Kauffman

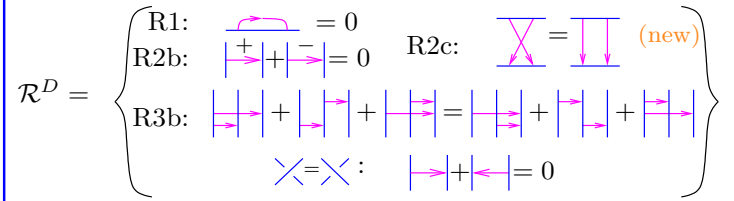
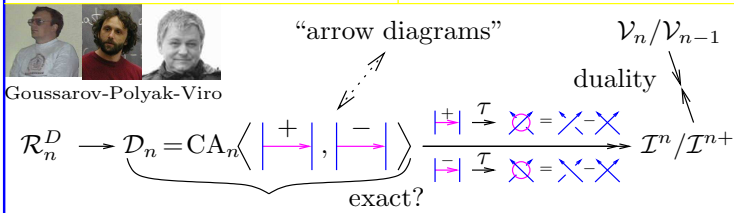
$$\mathcal{I} = \mathcal{I} \langle \text{diagram} = \text{diagram} - \text{diagram} \rangle \quad \mathcal{V}_n = (v\mathcal{K} / \mathcal{I}^{n+1})^*$$

is one thing we measure...

The True Count



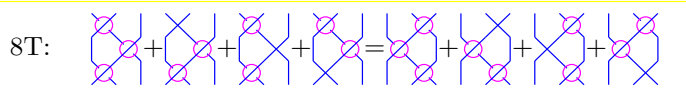
One bang! and five compatible transfer principles.



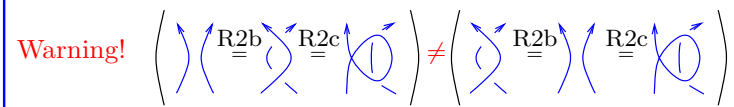
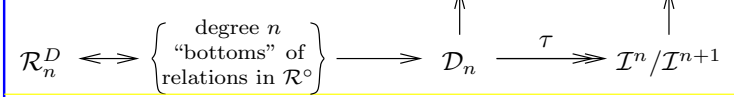
$\mathcal{W}_n = (D_n / \mathcal{R}_n^D)^* = (\mathcal{A}_n)^*$  is the other thing we measure...

## The Polyak Technique

$$v\mathcal{K} = CA_Q \langle \text{diagram} \rangle / \mathcal{R}^\circ = \{8T, \text{etc.}\} \quad \text{fails in the u case}$$



This is a computable space!  $\{ CA_Q^{\leq n} \langle \text{diagram} \rangle / \mathcal{R}^{\circ \leq n} = v\mathcal{K} / \mathcal{I}^{n+1} \}$



**Bang.** Recall the surjection  $\bar{\tau} : \mathcal{A}_n = D_n / \mathcal{R}_n^D \rightarrow \mathcal{I}^n / \mathcal{I}^{n+1}$ . A filtered map  $Z : v\mathcal{K} \rightarrow \mathcal{A} = \bigoplus \mathcal{A}_n$  such that  $(gr Z) \circ \bar{\tau} = I$  is called a universal finite type invariant, or an “expansion”.

**Theorem.** Such  $Z$  exist iff  $\bar{\tau} : D_n / \mathcal{R}_n^D \rightarrow \mathcal{I}^n / \mathcal{I}^{n+1}$  is an isomorphism for every class and every  $n$ , and iff the 18 conjectures hold true.

**The Big Bang.** Can you find a “homomorphic expansion”  $Z$  — an expansion that is also a morphism of circuit algebras? Perhaps one that would also intertwine other operations, such as strand doubling? Or one that would extend to v-knotted trivalent graphs?

• Using generators/relations, finding  $Z$  is an exercise in solving equations in graded spaces.

• In the u case, these are the Drinfel'd pentagon and hexagon equations.

• In the w case, these are the Kashiwara-Vergne-Alekseev-Torossian equations. Composed with  $\mathcal{T}_g : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$ , you get that the convolution algebra of invariant functions on a Lie group is isomorphic to the convolution algebra of invariant functions on its Lie algebra.

• In the v case there are strong indications that you'd get the equations defining a quantized universal enveloping algebra and the Etingof-Kazhdan theory of quantization of Lie bi-algebras. **That's why I'm here!**



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



1.  $\text{proj } \mathcal{K}^w(\uparrow_n) \cong_j \mathcal{U}((\mathfrak{a}_n \oplus \mathfrak{tder}_n) \rtimes \mathfrak{tr}_n)$

— All Signs Are Wrong! —

Dror Bar-Natan, Montpellier, June 2010, <http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Talks/Montpellier-1006/>

I understand Drinfel'd and Alekseev-Torossian, I don't understand Etingof-Kazhdan yet, and I'm clueless about Kontsevich

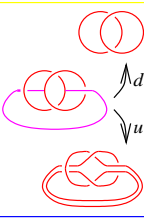
Cans and Can't Yet.

(arbitrary algebraic structure)  $\xrightarrow[\text{machine}]{\text{projectivization}}$  (a problem in graded algebra)

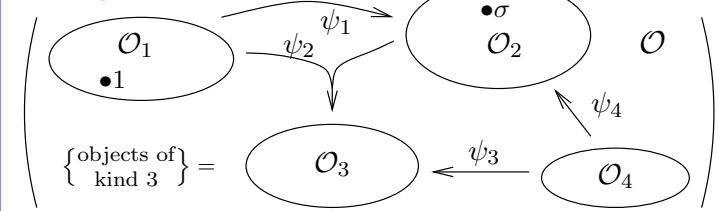
- Feed knot-things, get Lie algebra things.
- (u-knots)  $\rightarrow$  (Drinfel'd associators).
- (w-knots)  $\rightarrow$  (K-V-A-E-T).
- Dream: (v-knots)  $\rightarrow$  (Etingof-Kazhdan).
- Clueless: (???)  $\rightarrow$  (Kontsevich)?
- Goals: add to the Knot Atlas, produce a working AKT and touch ribbon 1-knots, rip benefits from *truly* understanding quantum groups.



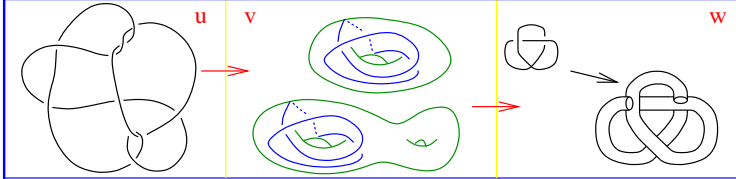
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"An Algebraic Structure"



- Has kinds, objects, operations, and maybe constants.
- Perhaps subject to some axioms.
- We always allow formal linear combinations.



u-Knots (PA := Planar Algebra)

{knots & links} = PA  $\langle \text{R123: } \rho = \rangle, \delta = \rangle, \text{ etc.} \rangle_{0 \text{ legs}}$

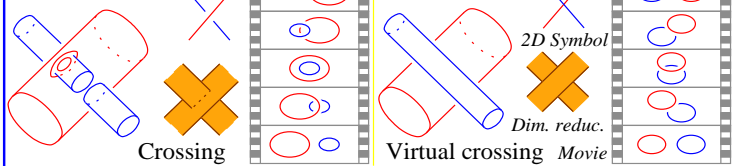
Circuit Algebras



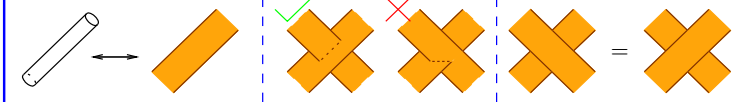
v-Tangles and w-Tangles (CA := Circuit Algebra)

{v-knots & links} = CA  $\langle \text{R23: } \delta = \rangle, \text{ etc.} \rangle$   
 = PA  $\langle \text{VR123: } \rho = \rangle, \delta = \rangle, \text{ etc.} \rangle_{\text{R23}}$   
 {w-Tangles} = v-Tangles / OC:  $\text{crossing} = \text{crossing}$

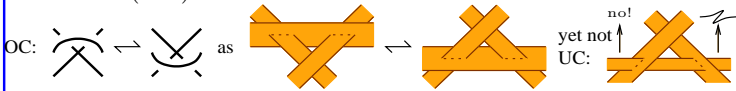
The w-generators.



A Ribbon 2-Knot is a surface  $S$  embedded in  $\mathbb{R}^4$  that bounds an immersed handlebody  $B$ , with only "ribbon singularities"; a ribbon singularity is a disk  $D$  of transverse double points, whose preimages in  $B$  are a disk  $D_1$  in the interior of  $B$  and a disk  $D_2$  with  $D_2 \cap \partial B = \partial D_2$ , modulo isotopies of  $S$  alone.



The w-relations include R234, VR1234, D, Overcrossings Commute (OC) but not UC:



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

Also see <http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/papers/WKO/>

Homomorphic expansions for a filtered algebraic structure  $\mathcal{K}$ :

$$\text{ops} \subset \mathcal{K} = \mathcal{K}_0 \supset \mathcal{K}_1 \supset \mathcal{K}_2 \supset \mathcal{K}_3 \supset \dots$$

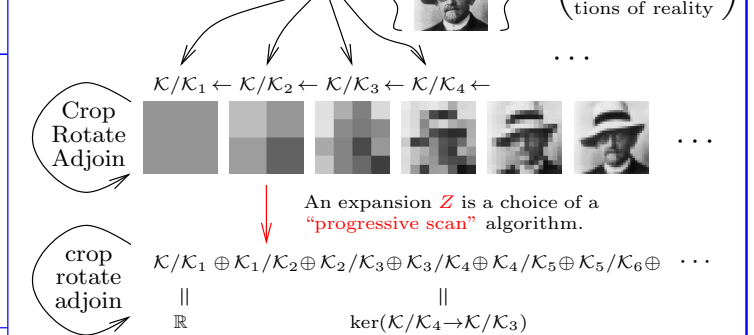
$$\downarrow \qquad \qquad \qquad \downarrow$$

$$\text{ops} \subset \text{gr } \mathcal{K} := \mathcal{K}_0/\mathcal{K}_1 \oplus \mathcal{K}_1/\mathcal{K}_2 \oplus \mathcal{K}_2/\mathcal{K}_3 \oplus \mathcal{K}_3/\mathcal{K}_4 \oplus \dots$$

An expansion is a filtered  $Z : \mathcal{K} \rightarrow \text{gr } \mathcal{K}$  that "covers" the identity on  $\text{gr } \mathcal{K}$ . A homomorphic expansion is an expansion that respects all relevant "extra" operations.

Reality.  $\text{gr } \mathcal{K}$  is often too hard. An  $\mathcal{A}$ -expansion is a graded "guess"  $\mathcal{A}$  with a surjection  $\tau : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \text{gr } \mathcal{K}$  and a filtered  $Z : \mathcal{K} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  for which  $(\text{gr } Z) \circ \tau = I_{\mathcal{A}}$ . An  $\mathcal{A}$ -expansion confirms  $\mathcal{A}$  and yields an ordinary expansion. Same for "homomorphic".

Just for fun.



Filtered algebraic structures are cheap and plenty. In any  $\mathcal{K}$ , allow formal linear combinations, let  $\mathcal{K}_1 = \mathcal{I}$  be the ideal generated by differences (the "augmentation ideal"), and let  $\mathcal{K}_m := \langle (\mathcal{K}_1)^m \rangle$  (using all available "products"). In this case, set  $\text{proj } \mathcal{K} := \text{gr } \mathcal{K}$ .

Examples. 1. The projectivization of a group is a graded associative algebra.

2. Pure braids —  $PB_n$  is generated by  $x_{ij}$ , "strand  $i$  goes around strand  $j$  once", modulo "Reidemeister moves".  $A_n := \text{gr } PB_n$  is generated by  $t_{ij} := x_{ij} - 1$ , modulo the  $4T$  relations  $[t_{ij}, t_{ik} + t_{jk}] = 0$  (and some lesser ones too). Much happens in  $A_n$ , including the Drinfel'd theory of associators.

3. Quandle: a set  $Q$  with an op  $\wedge$  s.t.  
 $1 \wedge x = 1, \quad x \wedge 1 = x, \quad (\text{appetizers})$   
 $(x \wedge y) \wedge z = (x \wedge z) \wedge (y \wedge z). \quad (\text{main})$

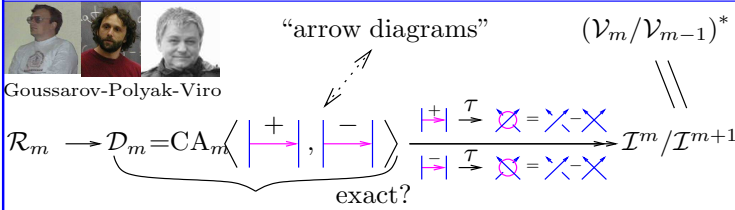
$\text{proj } Q$  is a graded Leibniz algebra: Roughly, set  $\bar{v} := (v - 1)$  (these generate  $I!$ ), feed  $1 + \bar{x}, 1 + \bar{y}, 1 + \bar{z}$  in (main), collect the surviving terms of lowest degree:

$$(\bar{x} \wedge \bar{y}) \wedge \bar{z} = (\bar{x} \wedge \bar{z}) \wedge \bar{y} + \bar{x} \wedge (\bar{y} \wedge \bar{z}).$$



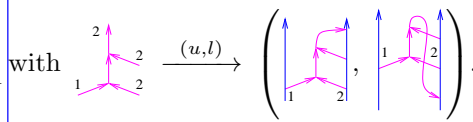
Kashiwara, Vergne, Alekseev, Enriquez, Torossian.

1.  $\text{proj } \mathcal{K}^w(\uparrow_n) \cong \mathcal{U}((\mathfrak{a}_n \oplus \mathfrak{tder}_n) \ltimes \mathfrak{tr}_n)$ , continued.



Wheels and Trees. With  $\mathcal{P}$  for Primitives,

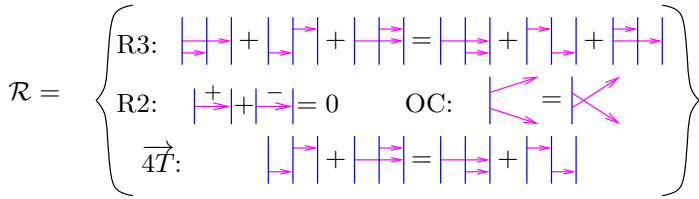
$$0 \rightarrow \langle \text{wheels} \rangle \xrightarrow{l} \mathcal{P}A^w(\uparrow_n) \xrightleftharpoons[\pi]{u} \langle \text{trees} \rangle \rightarrow 0,$$



trees atop a wheel, and a little prince.

So  $\text{proj } \mathcal{K}^w(\uparrow_n) \cong \mathcal{U}(\langle \text{trees} \rangle \ltimes \langle \text{wheels} \rangle)$ .

**Imperfect Thumb-Rule.** Take R3 (say), substitute  $\curvearrowright \rightarrow \curvearrowright + \curvearrowleft$ , keep the lowest degree terms that don't immediately die:

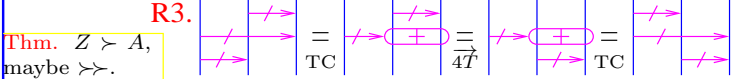
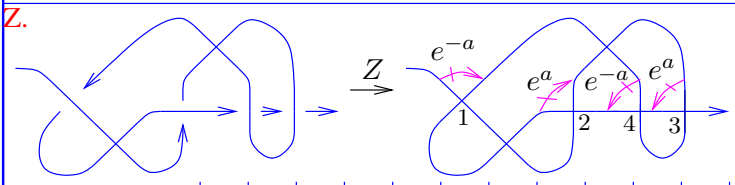


**Some A-T Notions.**  $\mathfrak{a}_n$  is the vector space with basis  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ ,  $\mathfrak{lie}_n = \mathfrak{lie}(\mathfrak{a}_n)$  is the free Lie algebra,  $\text{Ass}_n = \mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{lie}_n)$  is the free associative algebra “of words”,  $\text{tr} : \text{Ass}_n^+ \rightarrow \mathfrak{tr}_n = \text{Ass}_n^+ / (x_{i_1} x_{i_2} \cdots x_{i_m} = x_{i_2} \cdots x_{i_m} x_{i_1})$  is the “trace” into “cyclic words”,  $\mathfrak{der}_n = \mathfrak{der}(\mathfrak{lie}_n)$  are all the derivations, and

$$\mathfrak{tder}_n = \{D \in \mathfrak{der}_n : \forall i \exists a_i \text{ s.t. } D(x_i) = [x_i, a_i]\}$$

are “tangential derivations”, so  $D \leftrightarrow (a_1, \dots, a_n)$  is a vector space isomorphism  $\mathfrak{a}_n \oplus \mathfrak{tder}_n \cong \bigoplus_n \mathfrak{lie}_n$ . Finally,  $\text{div} : \mathfrak{tder}_n \rightarrow \mathfrak{tr}_n$  is  $(a_1, \dots, a_n) \mapsto \sum_k \text{tr}(x_k (\partial_k a_k))$ , where for  $a \in \text{Ass}_n^+$ ,  $\partial_k a \in \text{Ass}_n$  is determined by  $a = \sum_k (\partial_k a) x_k$ , and  $j : \text{TAut}_n = \exp(\mathfrak{tder}_n) \rightarrow \mathfrak{tr}_n$  is  $j(e^D) = \frac{e^D - 1}{D} \cdot \text{div } D$ .

**Theorem.** Everything matches.  $\langle \text{trees} \rangle$  is  $\mathfrak{a}_n \oplus \mathfrak{tder}_n$  as Lie algebras,  $\langle \text{wheels} \rangle$  is  $\mathfrak{tr}_n$  as  $\langle \text{trees} \rangle / \mathfrak{tder}_n$ -modules,  $\text{div } D = \iota^{-1}(u-l)(D)$ , and  $e^{uD} e^{-lD} = e^{jD}$ .

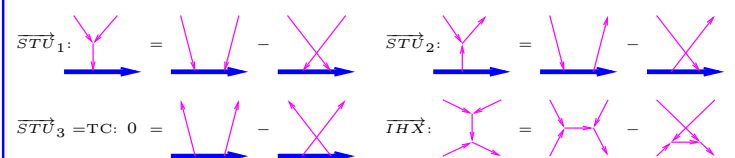
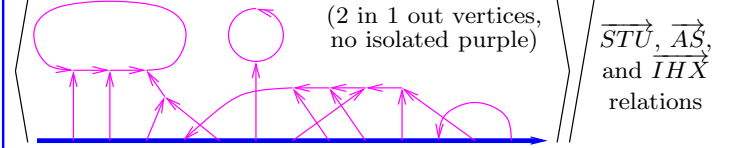


**Differential Operators.** Interpret  $\dot{\mathcal{U}}(\mathfrak{g})$  as tangential differential operators on  $\text{Fun}(\mathfrak{g})$ :

- $\varphi \in \mathfrak{g}^*$  becomes a multiplication operator.
- $x \in \mathfrak{g}$  becomes a tangential derivation, in the direction of the action of  $\text{ad } x$ :  $(x\varphi)(y) := \varphi([x, y])$ .

Trees become vector fields and  $uD \mapsto lD$  is  $D \mapsto D^*$ . So  $\text{div } D$  is  $D - D^*$  and  $jD = \log(e^D(e^D)^*) = \int_0^1 dt e^{tD} \text{div } D$ .

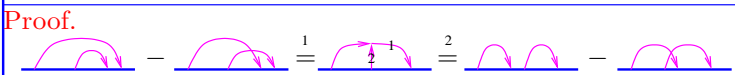
**The Bracket-Rise Theorem.**  $\mathcal{A}^w(\uparrow_1)$  is isomorphic to



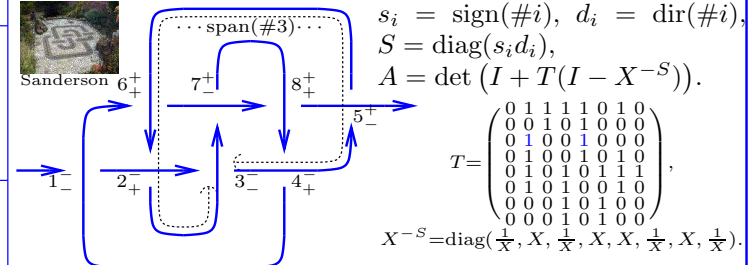
**Special Derivations.** Let  $\mathfrak{sder}_n = \{D \in \mathfrak{tder}_n : D(\sum x_i) = 0\}$ .

**Theorem.**  $\mathfrak{sder}_n = \pi\alpha(\text{proj u-tangles})$ , where  $\alpha$  is the obvious map  $\text{proj u-tangles} \rightarrow \text{proj w-tangles}$ .

**Proof.** After decoding, this becomes Lemma 6.1 of Drinfel'd's amazing  $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Q})$  paper.

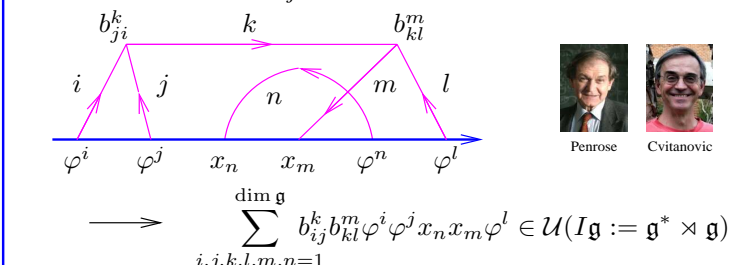


**The Alexander Theorem.**



**Corollaries.** (1) Related to Lie algebras! (2) Only wheels and isolated arrows persist.

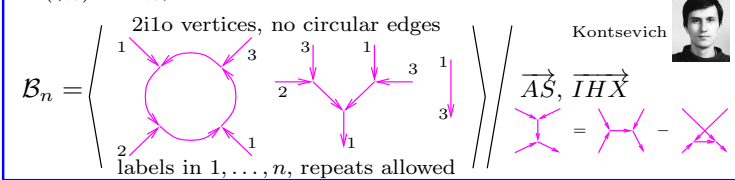
**To Lie Algebras.** With  $(x_i)$  and  $(\varphi^j)$  dual bases of  $\mathfrak{g}$  and  $\mathfrak{g}^*$  and with  $[x_i, x_j] = \sum b_{ij}^k x_k$ , we have  $\mathcal{A}^w \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$  via



**Conjecture.** For u-knots,  $A$  is the Alexander polynomial.

**Theorem.** With  $w : x^k \mapsto w_k = (\text{the } k\text{-wheel})$ ,  $Z = N \exp_{\mathcal{A}^w}(-w(\log_{\mathbb{Q}[x]} A(e^x))) \pmod{w_k w_l = w_{k+l}, Z = N \cdot A^{-1}(e^x)}$

**Theorem (PBW, “ $\mathcal{U}(I\mathfrak{g})^{\otimes n} \cong \mathcal{S}(I\mathfrak{g})^{\otimes n}$ ”).** As vector spaces,  $\mathcal{A}^w(\uparrow_n) \cong \mathcal{B}_n$ , where



This is the **ultimate Alexander invariant!** computable in polynomial time, local, composes well, behaves under cabling. Seems to significantly generalize the multi-variable Alexander polynomial and the theory of Milnor linking numbers. But it's ugly, and much work remains.



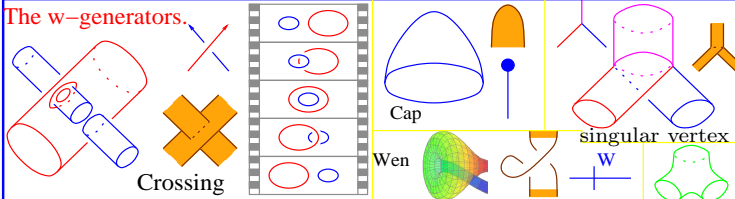
## 2. w-Knots, Alekseev–Torossian, and baby Etingof–Kazhdan

I understand Drinfel'd and Alekseev–Torossian, I don't understand Etingof–Kazhdan yet, and I'm clueless about Kontsevich  
 Dror Bar–Natan, Montpellier, June 2010, <http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Talks/Montpellier-1006/>

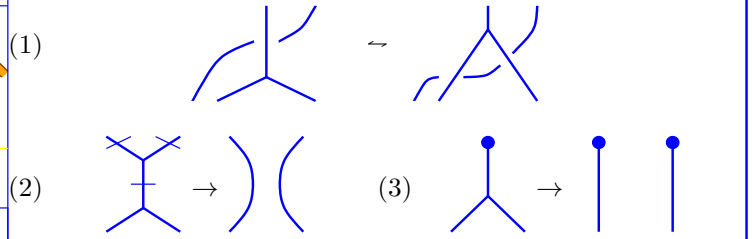
### Trivalent w-Tangles.

$$wTT = CA \left\langle \begin{array}{c|c|c} w\text{-} & w\text{-} & \text{unary } w\text{-} \\ \text{generators} & \text{relations} & \text{operations} \end{array} \right\rangle$$

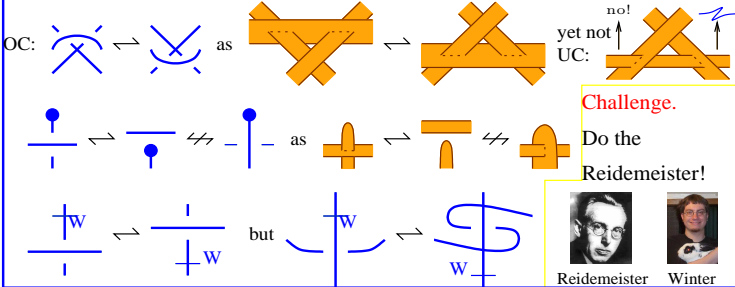
#### The w-generators.



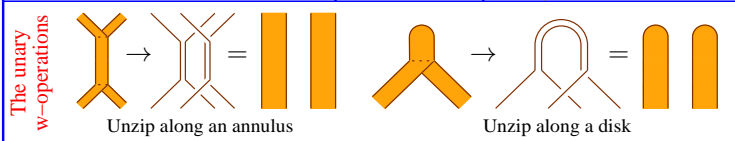
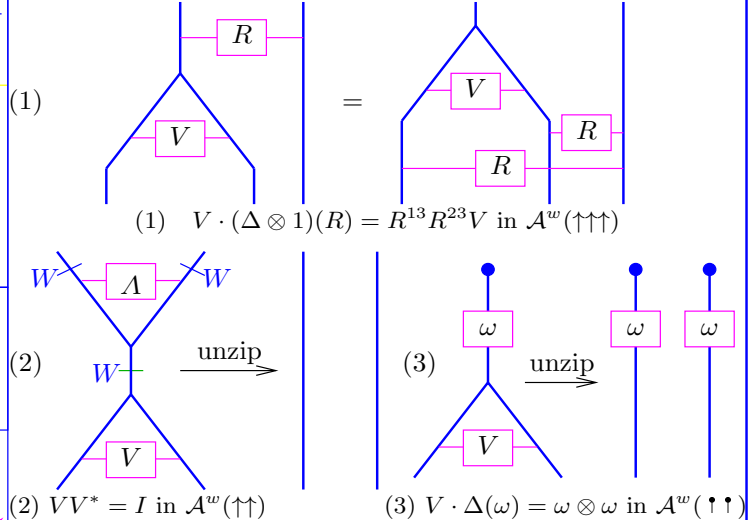
**Knot-Theoretic statement.** There exists a homomorphic expansion  $Z$  for trivalent  $w$ -tangles. In particular,  $Z$  should respect  $R4$  and intertwine annulus and disk unzips:



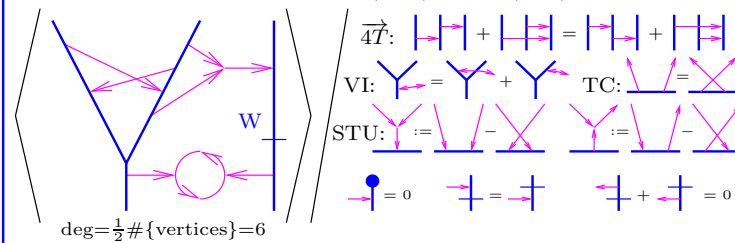
The  $w$ -relations include  $R234$ ,  $VR1234$ ,  $D$ , Overcrossings Commute (OC) but not UC,  $W^2 = 1$ , and funny interactions between the wen and the cap and over- and under-crossings:



**Diagrammatic statement.** Let  $R = \exp \uparrow \in \mathcal{A}^w(\uparrow\uparrow)$ . There exist  $\omega \in \mathcal{A}^w(\uparrow)$  and  $V \in \mathcal{A}^w(\uparrow\uparrow)$  so that



w-Jacobi diagrams and  $\mathcal{A}$ .  $\mathcal{A}^w(Y \uparrow) \cong \mathcal{A}^w(\uparrow\uparrow)$  is



**Alekseev-Torossian statement.** There are elements  $F \in \text{TAut}_2$  and  $a \in \mathfrak{t}_1$  such that

$$F(x+y) = \log e^x e^y \quad \text{and} \quad jF = a(x) + a(y) - a(\log e^x e^y).$$

**Theorem.** The Alekseev-Torossian statement is equivalent to the knot-theoretic statement.

**Proof.** Write  $V = e^c e^{uD}$  with  $c \in \mathfrak{t}_2$ ,  $D \in \mathfrak{td}\mathfrak{t}_2$ , and  $\omega = e^b$  with  $b \in \mathfrak{t}_1$ . Then (1)  $\Leftrightarrow e^{uD}(x+y)e^{-uD} = \log e^x e^y$ , (2)  $\Leftrightarrow I = e^c e^{uD}(e^{uD})^* e^c = e^{2c} e^{jD}$ , and (3)  $\Leftrightarrow e^c e^{uD} e^{b(x+y)} = e^{b(x)+b(y)} \Leftrightarrow e^c e^{b(\log e^x e^y)} = e^{b(x)+b(y)} \Leftrightarrow c = b(x) + b(y) - b(\log e^x e^y)$ .

#### An Associator:

$$(AB)C \xrightarrow{\Phi \in \mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g})^{\otimes 3}} A(BC)$$

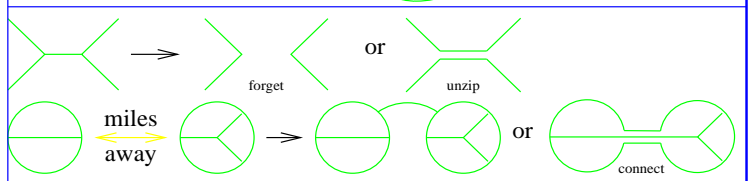
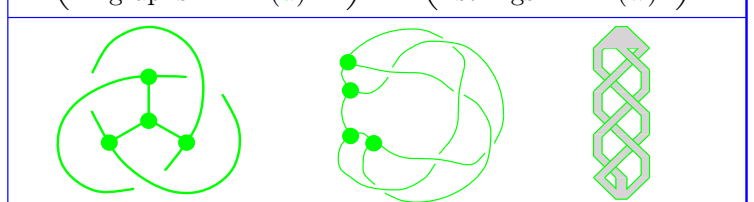
$$\begin{array}{ccc} ((AB)C)D & \xrightarrow{(\Delta 11)\Phi} & (AB)(CD) \\ \Phi 1 \downarrow & & \downarrow (11\Delta)\Phi \\ (A(BC))D & & A(B(CD)) \\ (1\Delta 1)\Phi \downarrow & & \uparrow 1\Phi \\ & & A((BC)D) \end{array}$$

satisfying the "pentagon",  $\Phi 1 \cdot (1\Delta 1)\Phi \cdot 1\Phi = (\Delta 11)\Phi \cdot (11\Delta)\Phi$

#### The Alekseev-Torossian Correspondence.

{Drinfel'd Associators}  $\Leftrightarrow$  {Solutions of KV}.  
 We need an even bigger algebraic structure!

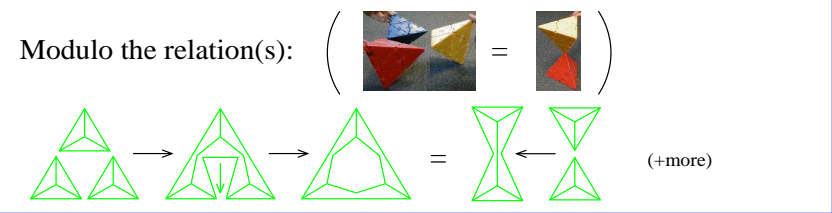
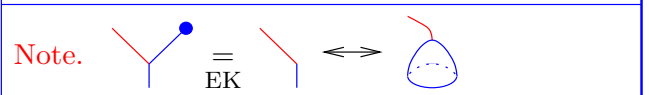
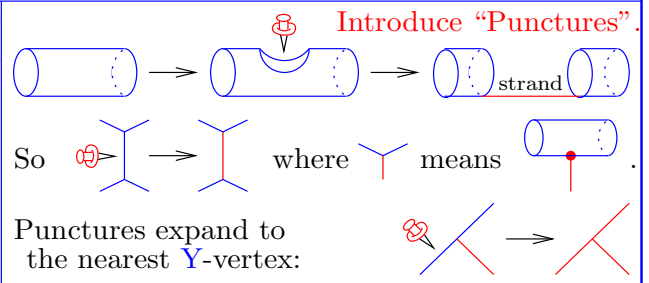
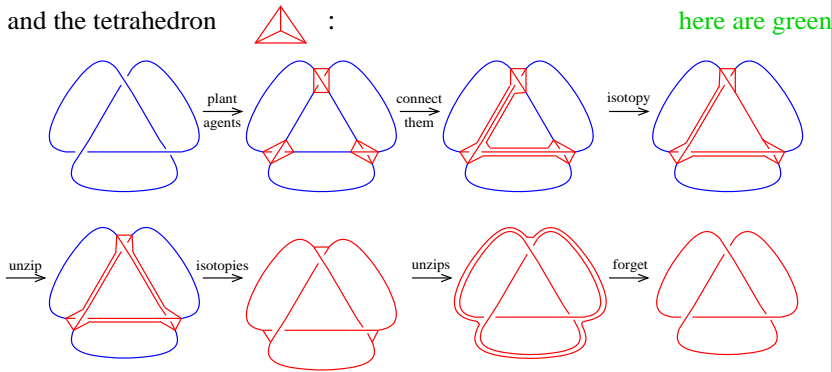
$$\left( \begin{array}{c} \text{green knotted trivalent} \\ \text{graphs in } \mathbb{R}^3 (u) \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{\alpha_e} \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{blue tubes and red} \\ \text{strings in } \mathbb{R}^4 (\bar{w}) \end{array} \right)$$





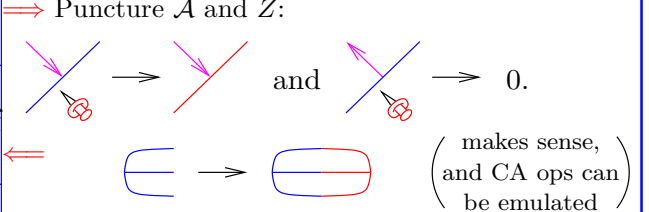
2. w-Knots, Alekseev–Torossian, and baby Etingof–Kazhdan, continued.

Using moves, KTG is generated by ribbon twists and the tetrahedron



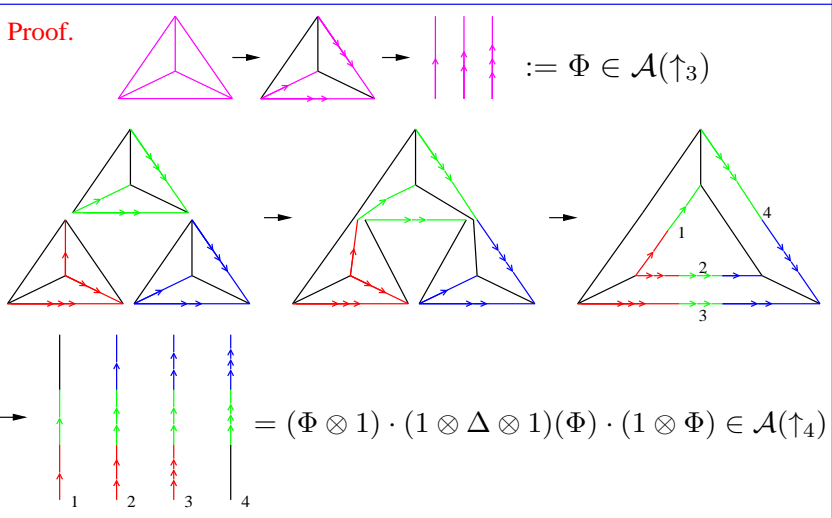
$\mathcal{K}^w$ . Allow tubes and strands and tube-strand vertices as above, yet allow only "compact" knots — nothing runs to  $\infty$ .

$\mathcal{K}^w \leftrightarrow \mathcal{K}^{\overline{w}}$  equivalence.  $\mathcal{K}^w$  has a homomorphic expansion iff  $\mathcal{K}^{\overline{w}}$  has a homomorphic expansion.

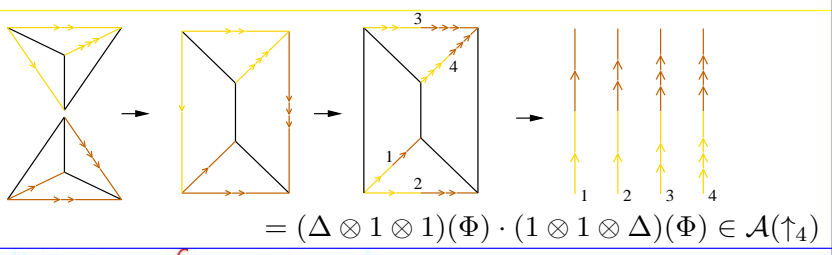
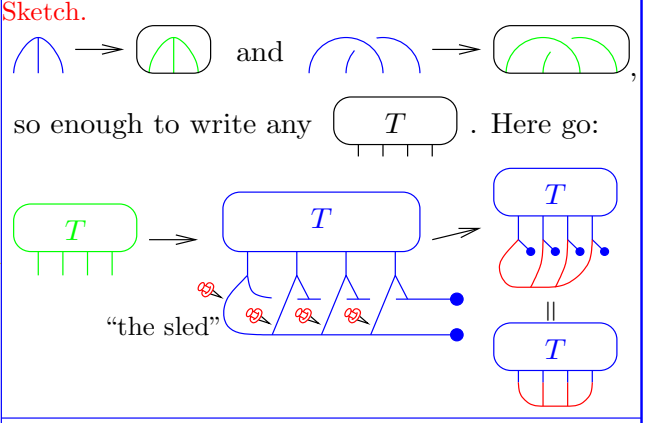


**Claim.** With  $\Phi := Z(\Delta)$ , the above relation becomes equivalent to the Drinfel'd's pentagon of the theory of quasi-Hopf algebras.

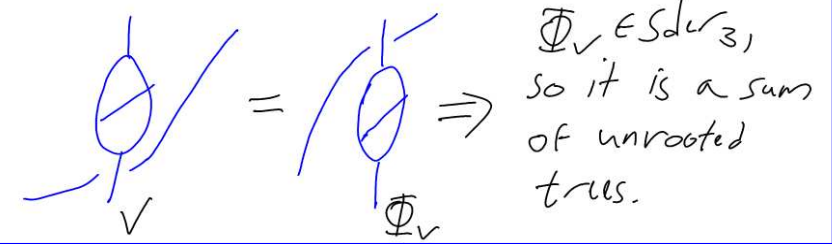
$\mathcal{K}^u \rightarrow \mathcal{K}^{\overline{w}}$ . "Cut and cap is well-defined on  $u$ "



**Theorem.** The generators of  $\mathcal{K}^{\overline{w}}$  can be written in terms of the generators of  $\mathcal{K}^u$  (i.e., given  $\Phi$ , can write a formula for  $V$ ).



{Solkv}  $\rightarrow$  {Associators}: Trivial - a tetrahedron has 4 vertices.



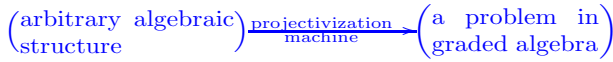
**Day 1 – u, v, w: topology and philosophy**

Dror Bar-Natan, Goettingen, April 2010

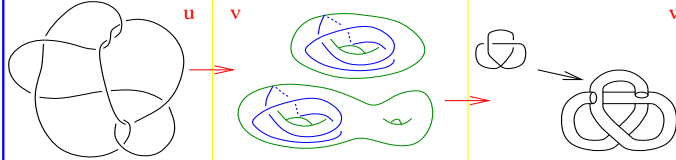
**u, v, and w-Knots: Topology, Combinatorics and Low and High Algebra**

<http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Talks/Goettingen-1004/>

**Plans and Dreams**



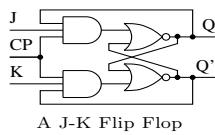
- Feed **knot-things**, get Lie algebra things.
- Feed **u-knots**, get Drinfel'd associators.
- Feed **w-knots**, get Kashiwara-Vergne-Alekseev-Torossian.
- Dream: Feed **v-knots**, get Etingof-Kazhdan.
- Dream: Knowing the question whose answer is 42, or E-K, will be useful to algebra and topology.



**u-Knots** (PA := Planar Algebra)

$$\{\text{knots} \ \& \ \text{links}\} = \text{PA} \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \diagup \diagdown \\ \diagdown \diagup \end{array} \middle| \text{R123: } \begin{array}{c} \bigcirc = \bigcirc \\ \bigcirc = \bigcirc \\ \bigcirc = \bigcirc \end{array} \right\rangle_{0 \text{ legs}}$$

**Circuit Algebras**



**v-Knots** (CA := Circuit Algebra)

$$\{\text{v-knots} \ \& \ \text{links}\} = \text{CA} \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \diagup \diagdown \\ \diagdown \diagup \end{array} \middle| \text{R23: } \begin{array}{c} \bigcirc = \bigcirc \\ \bigcirc = \bigcirc \\ \bigcirc = \bigcirc \end{array} \right\rangle_{0 \text{ legs}}$$

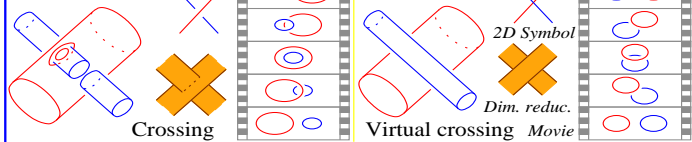
$$= \text{PA} \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \diagup \diagdown \\ \diagdown \diagup \end{array} \middle| \text{VR123: } \begin{array}{c} \bigcirc = \bigcirc \\ \bigcirc = \bigcirc \\ \bigcirc = \bigcirc \end{array} \right\rangle_{0 \text{ legs}}$$

$$\text{R23; D: } \begin{array}{c} \diagup \diagdown \\ \diagdown \diagup \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \diagdown \diagup \\ \diagup \diagdown \end{array}$$

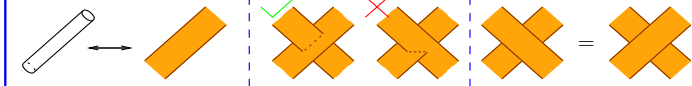
**w-Tangles**

$$\{\text{w-Tangles}\} = \text{v-Tangles} / \text{OC} : \begin{array}{c} \diagup \diagdown \\ \diagdown \diagup \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \diagdown \diagup \\ \diagup \diagdown \end{array}$$

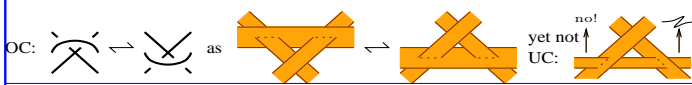
**The w-generators.**



A **Ribbon 2-Knot** is a surface  $S$  embedded in  $\mathbb{R}^4$  that bounds an immersed handlebody  $B$ , with only “ribbon singularities”; a ribbon singularity is a disk  $D$  of trasverse double points, whose preimages in  $B$  are a disk  $D_1$  in the interior of  $B$  and a disk  $D_2$  with  $D_2 \cap \partial B = \partial D_2$ , modulo isotopies of  $S$  alone.

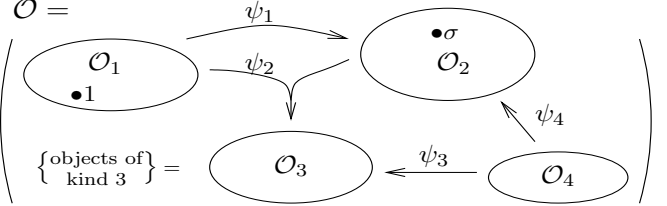


The **w-relations** include R234, VR1234, M, Overcrossings Commute (OC) but not UC:



Also see <http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/papers/WKO/>

**"An Algebraic Structure"**



- Has kinds, objects, operations, and maybe constants.
- Perhaps subject to some axioms.
- We always allow formal linear combinations.

**Homomorphic expansions** for a filtered algebraic structure  $\mathcal{K}$ :

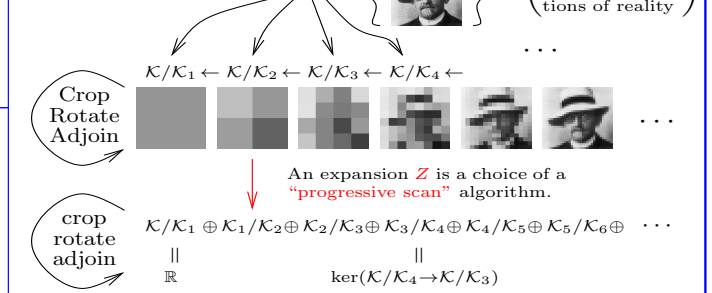
$$\text{ops} \curvearrowright \mathcal{K} = \mathcal{K}_0 \supset \mathcal{K}_1 \supset \mathcal{K}_2 \supset \mathcal{K}_3 \supset \dots$$

$$\downarrow \quad \quad \quad \downarrow z$$

$$\text{ops} \curvearrowright \text{gr } \mathcal{K} := \mathcal{K}_0/\mathcal{K}_1 \oplus \mathcal{K}_1/\mathcal{K}_2 \oplus \mathcal{K}_2/\mathcal{K}_3 \oplus \mathcal{K}_3/\mathcal{K}_4 \oplus \dots$$

An **expansion** is a filtration respecting  $Z : \mathcal{K} \rightarrow \text{gr } \mathcal{K}$  that “covers” the identity on  $\text{gr } \mathcal{K}$ . A **homomorphic expansion** is an expansion that respects all relevant “extra” operations.

**Just for fun.**



**Filtered algebraic structures are cheap and plenty.** In any  $\mathcal{K}$ , allow formal linear combinations, let  $\mathcal{K}_1 = \mathcal{I}$  be the ideal generated by differences (the “augmentation ideal”), and let  $\mathcal{K}_m := \langle (\mathcal{K}_1)^m \rangle$  (using all available “products”).

**Examples.** 1. The projectivization of a group is a graded associative algebra. 2. Quandle: a set  $Q$  with an op  $\wedge$  s.t.

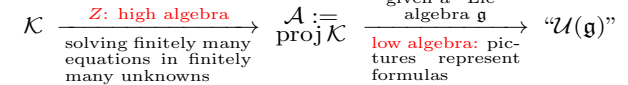
$$1 \wedge x = 1, \quad x \wedge 1 = x, \quad (\text{appetizers})$$

$$(x \wedge y) \wedge z = (x \wedge z) \wedge (y \wedge z). \quad (\text{main})$$

$\text{proj } Q$  is a graded Leibniz algebra: Roughly, set  $\bar{v} := (v - 1)$  (these generate  $\mathcal{I}$ !), feed  $1 + \bar{x}, 1 + \bar{y}, 1 + \bar{z}$  in (main), collect the surviving terms of lowest degree:

$$(\bar{x} \wedge \bar{y}) \wedge \bar{z} = (\bar{x} \wedge \bar{z}) \wedge \bar{y} + \bar{x} \wedge (\bar{y} \wedge \bar{z}).$$

**Our case(s).**



$\mathcal{K}$  is knot theory or **topology**;  $\text{proj } \mathcal{K} = \bigoplus \mathcal{I}^m / \mathcal{I}^{m+1}$  is finite **combinatorics**: bounded-complexity diagrams modulo simple relations.



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

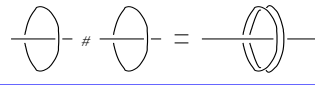


[www.katlas.org](http://www.katlas.org)

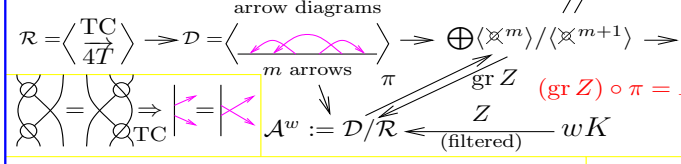
**Day 2 – u, v, w: combinatorics, low and high algebra**

Dror Bar-Natan, Goettingen, April 2010  
<http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Talks/Goettingen-1004/>

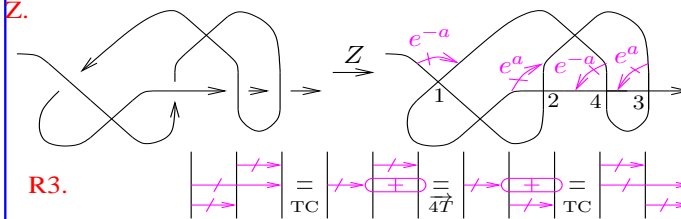
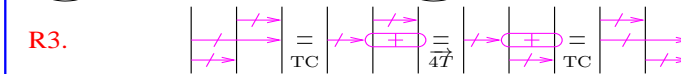
The Scheme. Topology → Combinatorics → Lie Theory via  
 $\mathcal{K} \xrightarrow[\text{equations, unknowns}]{Z: \text{high algebra}} \mathcal{A} = \text{proj } \mathcal{K} = \bigoplus \mathcal{I}^m / \mathcal{I}^{m+1} \xrightarrow[\text{pictures} \rightarrow \text{formulas}]{\mathcal{T}_g: \text{low algebra}} \mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g})$

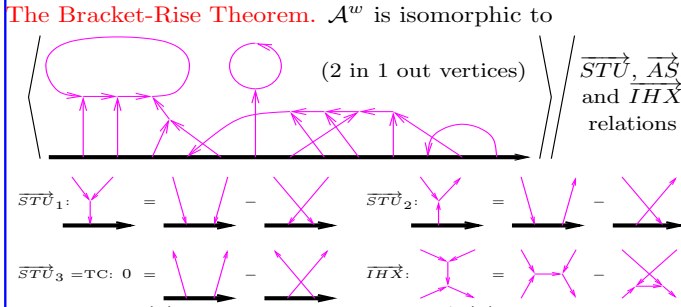
$1+1=2$ , on an abacus, implies Duflo's  $\mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g})^{\mathfrak{g}} \cong \mathcal{S}(\mathfrak{g})^{\mathfrak{g}}$  (with T. Le and D. Thurston).  


The Finite Type Story. With  $\bowtie := \times - \times$  set  $\mathcal{V}_m := \{V : wK \rightarrow \mathbb{Q} : V(\bowtie^{>m}) = 0\}$ .  $\bigoplus (\mathcal{V}_m / \mathcal{V}_{m-1})^*$

$\mathcal{R} = \langle \frac{\text{TC}}{4T} \rangle \rightarrow \mathcal{D} = \langle \text{m arrows} \rangle \xrightarrow{\pi} \bigoplus \langle \bowtie^m \rangle / \langle \bowtie^{m+1} \rangle \rightarrow 0$   
  
 $\mathcal{A}^w := \mathcal{D} / \mathcal{R} \xleftarrow{\text{(filtered)}} wK$   
 $\text{gr } Z \xrightarrow{Z} wK$  ( $\text{gr } Z \circ \pi = I$ )

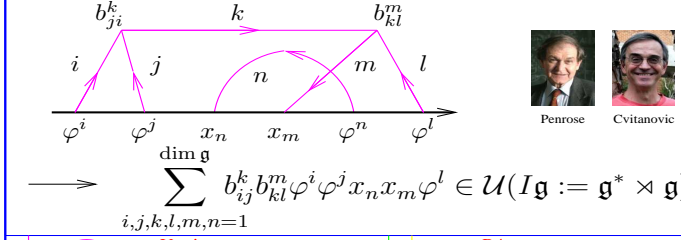
$\frac{1}{4T} = \frac{1}{4T} \Rightarrow$   I take pride in this box

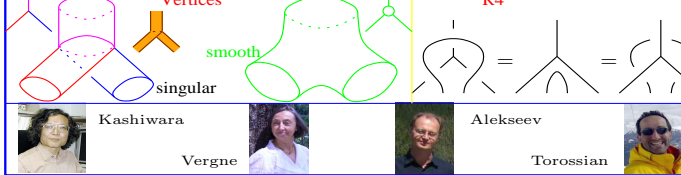
Z.   
 R3. 

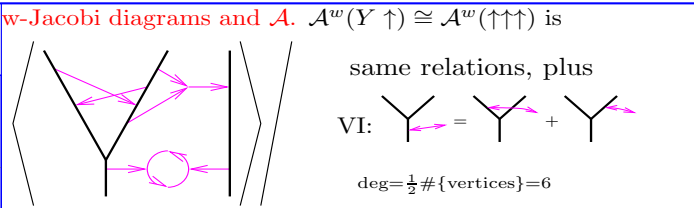

The Bracket-Rise Theorem.  $\mathcal{A}^w$  is isomorphic to  $\left\langle \begin{array}{c} \text{(2 in 1 out vertices)} \\ \text{relations} \end{array} \right\rangle$   
 $\overline{ST\bar{U}}, \overline{AS}, \text{ and } \overline{IH\bar{X}}$   


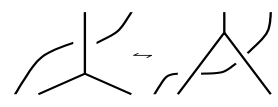
Corollaries. (1) Related to Lie algebras! (2) Only wheels and isolated arrows persist.

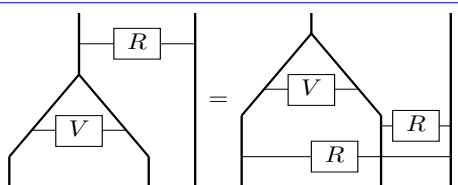
Low Algebra. With  $(x_i)$  and  $(\varphi^j)$  dual bases of  $\mathfrak{g}$  and  $\mathfrak{g}^*$  and with  $[x_i, x_j] = \sum b_{ij}^k x_k$ , we have  $\mathcal{A}^w \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$  via

  
 $\sum_{i,j,k,l,m,n=1}^{\dim \mathfrak{g}} b_{ij}^k b_{kl}^m \varphi^i \varphi^j x_n x_m \varphi^n \in \mathcal{U}(Ig := \mathfrak{g}^* \rtimes \mathfrak{g})$

  
 Kashiwara, Vergne, Alekseev, Torossian

w-Jacobi diagrams and  $\mathcal{A}$ .  $\mathcal{A}^w(Y \uparrow) \cong \mathcal{A}^w(\uparrow \uparrow \uparrow)$  is  
  
 same relations, plus  
 VI:   
 $\text{deg} = \frac{1}{2} \# \{\text{vertices}\} = 6$

Knot-Theoretic statement (simplified). There exists a homomorphic expansion  $Z$  for trivalent w-tangles. In particular,  $Z$  should respect R4.  


Diagrammatic statement (simplified). Let  $R = \exp \mathfrak{H} \in \mathcal{A}^w(\uparrow \uparrow)$ . There exist  $V \in \mathcal{A}^w(\uparrow \uparrow)$  so that  


Algebraic statement (simplified). With  $r \in \mathfrak{g}^* \otimes \mathfrak{g}$  the identity element and with  $R = e^r \in \hat{\mathcal{U}}(Ig) \otimes \hat{\mathcal{U}}(\mathfrak{g})$  there exist  $V \in \hat{\mathcal{U}}(Ig) \otimes \mathbb{Q}$  so that  $V(\Delta \otimes 1)(R) = R^{13} R^{23} V$  in  $\hat{\mathcal{U}}(Ig) \otimes \hat{\mathcal{U}}(\mathfrak{g})$

Unitary statement (simplified). There exists a unitary tangential differential operator  $V$  defined on  $\text{Fun}(\mathfrak{g}_x \times \mathfrak{g}_y)$  so that  $V e^{x+y} = \hat{e}^x \hat{e}^y V$  (allowing  $\hat{\mathcal{U}}(\mathfrak{g})$ -valued functions)

Unitary  $\iff$  Algebraic. Interpret  $\hat{\mathcal{U}}(Ig)$  as tangential differential operators on  $\text{Fun}(\mathfrak{g})$ :  $\varphi \in \mathfrak{g}^*$  becomes a multiplication operator, and  $x \in \mathfrak{g}$  becomes a tangential derivation, in the direction of the action of  $\text{ad } x$ :  $(x\varphi)(y) := \varphi([x, y])$ .

Group-Algebra statement (simplified). For every  $\phi, \psi \in \text{Fun}(\mathfrak{g})^G$  (with small support), the following holds in  $\hat{\mathcal{U}}(\mathfrak{g})$ :  

$$\iint_{\mathfrak{g} \times \mathfrak{g}} \phi(x) \psi(y) e^{x+y} = \iint_{\mathfrak{g} \times \mathfrak{g}} \phi(x) \psi(y) e^x e^y$$
 (shhh, this is Duflo)

Unitary  $\implies$  Group-Algebra.  $\iint e^{x+y} \phi(x) \psi(y) = \langle 1, e^{x+y} \phi(x) \psi(y) \rangle = \langle V1, V e^{x+y} \phi(x) \psi(y) \rangle = \langle 1, e^x e^y V \phi(x) \psi(y) \rangle = \langle 1, e^x e^y \phi(x) \psi(y) \rangle = \iint e^x e^y \phi(x) \psi(y)$ .

Convolutions statement (Kashiwara-Vergne, simplified). Convolutions of invariant functions on a Lie group agree with convolutions of invariant functions on its Lie algebra. More accurately, let  $G$  be a finite dimensional Lie group and let  $\mathfrak{g}$  be its Lie algebra, and let  $\Phi : \text{Fun}(G) \rightarrow \text{Fun}(\mathfrak{g})$  be given by  $\Phi(f)(x) := f(\exp x)$ . Then if  $f, g \in \text{Fun}(G)$  are Ad-invariant and supported near the identity, then  $\Phi(f) \star \Phi(g) = \Phi(f \star g)$ .

Convolutions and Group Algebras (ignoring all Jacobians). If  $G$  is finite,  $A$  is an algebra,  $\tau : G \rightarrow A$  is multiplicative then  $(\text{Fun}(G), \star) \rightarrow (A, \cdot)$  via  $L : f \mapsto \sum f(a) \tau(a)$ . For Lie  $(G, \mathfrak{g})$ ,  

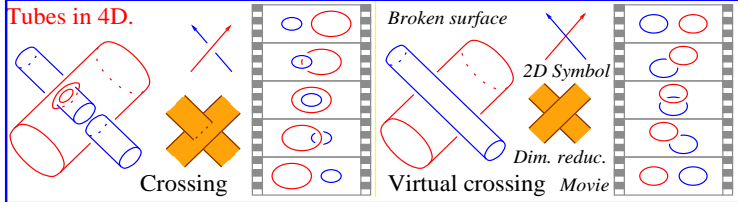
$$\begin{array}{ccc} (\mathfrak{g}, +) \ni x \xrightarrow{\tau_0 = \exp_S} e^x \in \hat{\mathcal{S}}(\mathfrak{g}) & & \text{Fun}(\mathfrak{g}) \xrightarrow{L_0} \hat{\mathcal{S}}(\mathfrak{g}) \\ \downarrow \exp_G & \searrow \exp_{\mathcal{U}} & \downarrow \chi \\ (G, \cdot) \ni e^x \xrightarrow{\tau_1} e^x \in \hat{\mathcal{U}}(\mathfrak{g}) & & \text{Fun}(G) \xrightarrow{L_1} \hat{\mathcal{U}}(\mathfrak{g}) \end{array}$$
 so  $\downarrow \Phi^{-1} \downarrow \chi$

with  $L_0 \psi = \int \psi(x) e^x dx \in \hat{\mathcal{S}}(\mathfrak{g})$  and  $L_1 \Phi^{-1} \psi = \int \psi(x) e^x \in \hat{\mathcal{U}}(\mathfrak{g})$ . Given  $\psi_i \in \text{Fun}(\mathfrak{g})$  compare  $\Phi^{-1}(\psi_1) \star \Phi^{-1}(\psi_2)$  and  $\Phi^{-1}(\psi_1 \star \psi_2)$  in  $\hat{\mathcal{U}}(\mathfrak{g})$ : (shhh,  $L_{0/1}$  are "Laplace transforms")  
 $\star$  in  $G : \iint \psi_1(x) \psi_2(y) e^x e^y \quad \star$  in  $\mathfrak{g} : \iint \psi_1(x) \psi_2(y) e^{x+y}$

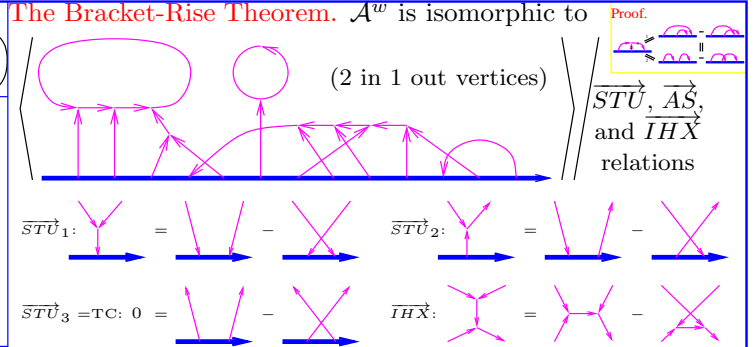
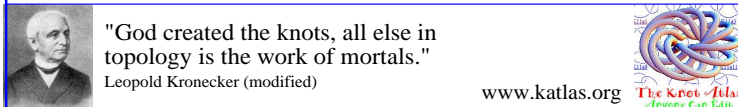
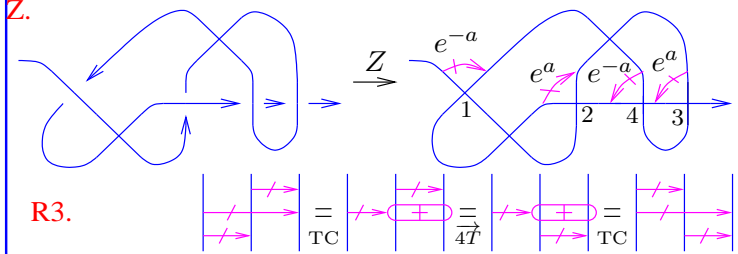
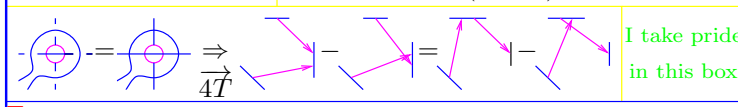
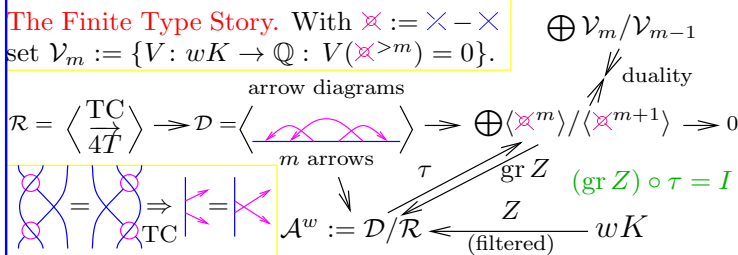
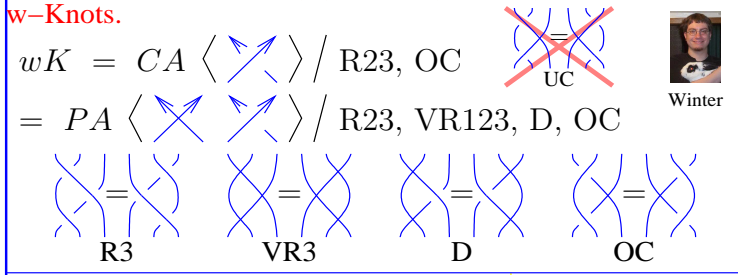
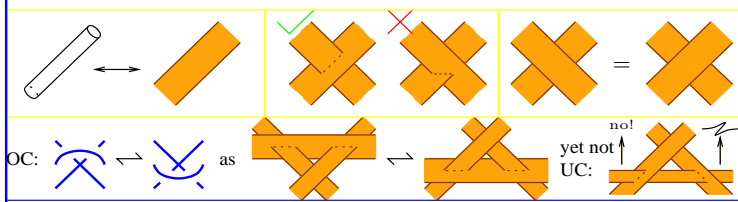
# w-Knots from Z to A

Dror Bar-Natan, Luminy, April 2010  
<http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Talks/Luminy-1004/>

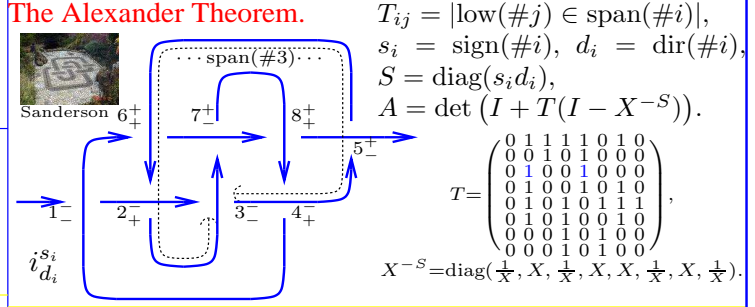
**Abstract** I will define w-knots, a class of knots wider than ordinary knots but weaker than virtual knots, and show that it is quite easy to construct a universal finite invariant of w-knots. In order to study Z we will introduce the "Euler Operator" and the "Infinitesimal Alexander Module", at the end finding a simple determinant formula for Z. With no doubt that formula computes the Alexander polynomial A, except I don't have a proof yet.



A **Ribbon 2-Knot** is a surface  $S$  embedded in  $\mathbb{R}^4$  that bounds an immersed handlebody  $B$ , with only "ribbon singularities"; a ribbon singularity is a disk  $D$  of transverse double points, whose preimages in  $B$  are a disk  $D_1$  in the interior of  $B$  and a disk  $D_2$  with  $D_2 \cap \partial B = \partial D_2$ , modulo isotopies of  $S$  alone.



**Corollaries.** (1) Related to Lie algebras! (2) Only wheels and isolated arrows persist. Habiro - can you do better?

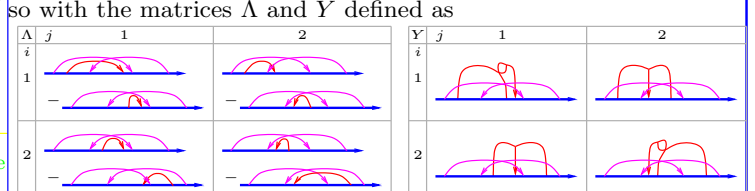
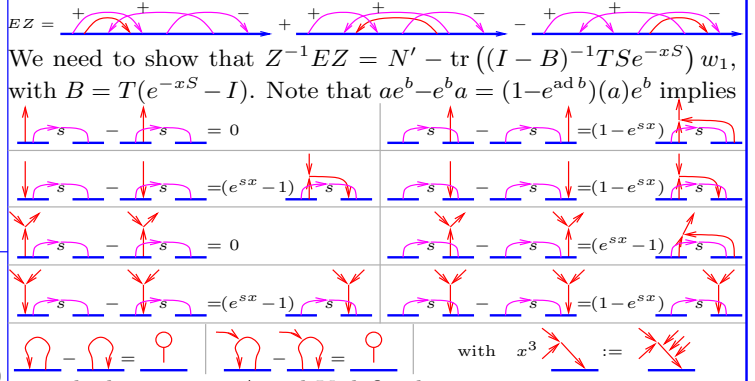


**Conjecture.** For u-knots, A is the Alexander polynomial.

**Theorem.** With  $w : x^k \mapsto w_k$  (the k-wheel),

$Z = N \exp_{\mathcal{A}^w} \left( -w \left( \log_{\mathbb{Q}[[x]]} A(e^x) \right) \right)$  mod  $w_k w_l = w_{k+l}$   
 $Z = N \cdot A^{-1}(e^x)$

**Proof Sketch.** Let  $E$  be the Euler operator, "multiply anything by its degree",  $f \mapsto x f'$  in  $\mathbb{Q}[[x]]$ , so  $E e^x = x e^x$  and



we have  $EZ - N'' = \text{tr}(S\Lambda)$ ,  $\Lambda = -BY - T e^{-xS} w_1$ , and  $Y = BY + T e^{-xS} w_1$ . The theorem follows.

**So What?** • Habiro-Shima did this already, but not quite. (HS: *Finite Type Invariants of Ribbon 2-Knots, II*, Top. and its Appl. **111** (2001).)

- New (?) formula for Alexander, new (?) "Infinitesimal Alexander Module". Related to Lescop's arXiv:1001.4474?
- An "ultimate Alexander invariant": local, composes well, behaves under cabling. Ought to also generalize the multi-variable Alexander polynomial and the theory of Milnor linking numbers.
- Tip of the Alekseev-Torossian-Kashiwara-Vergne iceberg (AT: *The Kashiwara-Vergne conjecture and Drinfeld's associators*, arXiv:0802.4300).
- Tip of the v-knots iceberg. May lead to other polynomial-time polynomial invariants. "A polynomial's worth a thousand exponentials".

Also see <http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/papers/WKO/>

# Convolutions on Lie Groups and Lie Algebras and Ribbon 2-Knots

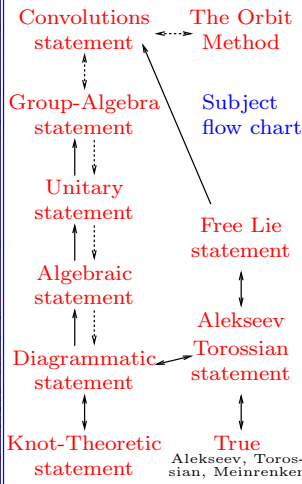
Dror Bar-Natan, Bonn August 2009, <http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Talks/Bonn-0908>

**Disclaimer:**  
Rough edges remain!

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



## The Bigger Picture...



## What are w-Trivalent Tangles?

(PA := Planar Algebra)

$$\{\text{knots} \ \& \ \text{links}\} = \text{PA} \left\langle \begin{array}{l} \text{R123} \\ \text{R123} : \text{ } \end{array} \right\rangle_{0 \text{ legs}}$$

$$\{\text{trivalent tangles}\} = \text{PA} \left\langle \begin{array}{l} \text{R23}, \text{R4} \\ \text{wTT} = \end{array} \right\rangle$$

$$\{\text{trivalent w-tangles}\} = \text{PA} \left\langle \begin{array}{l} \text{w-} \\ \text{generators} \end{array} \middle| \begin{array}{l} \text{w-} \\ \text{relations} \end{array} \right\rangle \begin{array}{l} \text{unary w-} \\ \text{operations} \end{array}$$

**The w-generators.**

## Homomorphic expansions for a filtered algebraic structure $\mathcal{K}$ :

$$\text{ops} \curvearrowright \mathcal{K} = \mathcal{K}_0 \supset \mathcal{K}_1 \supset \mathcal{K}_2 \supset \mathcal{K}_3 \supset \dots$$

$$\text{ops} \curvearrowright \text{gr } \mathcal{K} := \mathcal{K}_0/\mathcal{K}_1 \oplus \mathcal{K}_1/\mathcal{K}_2 \oplus \mathcal{K}_2/\mathcal{K}_3 \oplus \mathcal{K}_3/\mathcal{K}_4 \oplus \dots$$

An expansion is a filtration respecting  $Z : \mathcal{K} \rightarrow \text{gr } \mathcal{K}$  that "covers" the identity on  $\text{gr } \mathcal{K}$ . A homomorphic expansion is an expansion that respects all relevant "extra" operations.

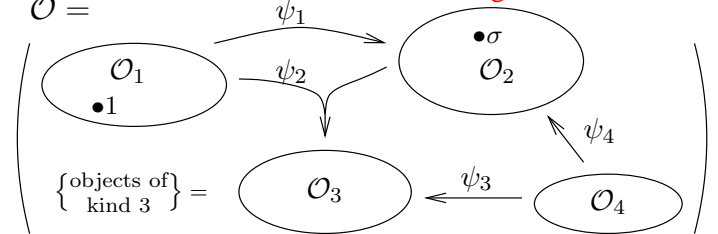
A Ribbon 2-Knot is a surface  $S$  embedded in  $\mathbb{R}^4$  that bounds an immersed handlebody  $B$ , with only "ribbon singularities"; a ribbon singularity is a disk  $D$  of trasverse double points, whose preimages in  $B$  are a disk  $D_1$  in the interior of  $B$  and a disk  $D_2$  with  $D_2 \cap \partial B = \partial D_2$ , modulo isotopies of  $S$  alone.

## Filtered algebraic structures are cheap and plenty.

In any  $\mathcal{K}$ , allow formal linear combinations, let  $\mathcal{K}_1$  be the ideal generated by differences (the "augmentation ideal"), and let  $\mathcal{K}_m := \langle (\mathcal{K}_1)^m \rangle$  (using all available "products").

The w-relations include R234, VR1234, M, Overcrossings Commute (OC) but not UC,  $W^2 = 1$ , and funny interactions between the wen and the cap and over- and under-crossings:

## "An Algebraic Structure"



- Has kinds, objects, operations, and maybe constants.
- Perhaps subject to some axioms.
- We always allow formal linear combinations.

**Example: Pure Braids.**  $PB_n$  is generated by  $x_{ij}$ , "strand  $i$  goes around strand  $j$  once", modulo "Reidemeister moves".  $A_n := \text{gr } PB_n$  is generated by  $t_{ij} := x_{ij} - 1$ , modulo the 4T relations  $[t_{ij}, t_{ik} + t_{jk}] = 0$  (and some lesser ones too). Much happens in  $A_n$ , including the Drinfel'd theory of associators.

The unary w-operations

**Our case(s).**

$$\mathcal{K} \xrightarrow{\text{Z: high algebra}} \mathcal{A} := \text{gr } \mathcal{K} \xrightarrow{\text{given a "Lie" algebra } \mathfrak{g}} \mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g})$$

solving finitely many equations in finitely many unknowns

low algebra: pictures represent formulas

**Just for fun.**

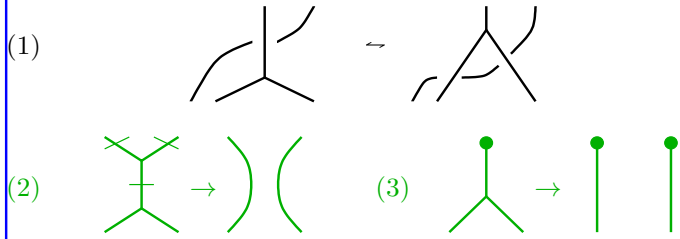
$$\mathcal{K} = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{[Portrait]} \\ \text{[Portrait]} \end{array} \right\} = \left( \begin{array}{l} \text{The set of all} \\ \text{b/w 2D projections} \\ \text{of reality} \end{array} \right)$$

$\mathcal{K}$  is knot theory or topology;  $\text{gr } \mathcal{K}$  is finite combinatorics: bounded-complexity diagrams modulo simple relations.

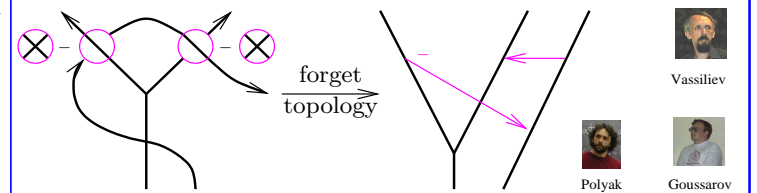
[1] <http://qlink.queensu.ca/~4lb11/interesting.html> 29/5/10, 8:42am  
Also see <http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/papers/WKO/>

# Convolutions on Lie Groups and Lie Algebras and Ribbon 2-Knots, Page 2

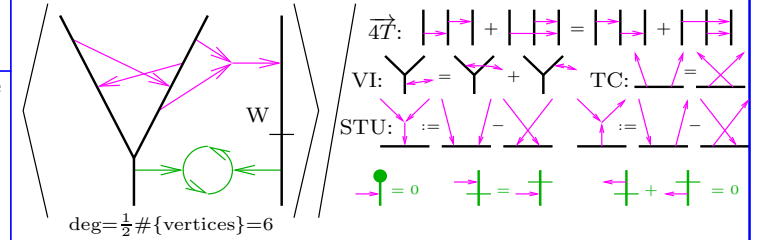
**Knot-Theoretic statement.** There exists a homomorphic expansion  $Z$  for trivalent w-tangles. In particular,  $Z$  should respect  $R4$  and intertwine annulus and disk unzips:



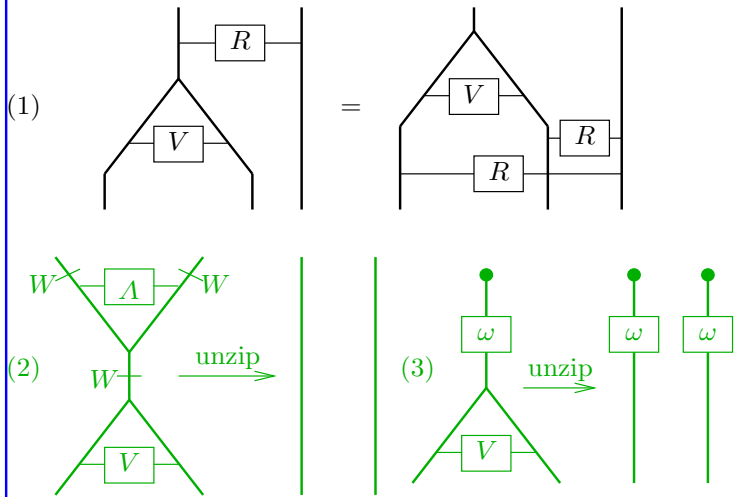
From wTT to  $\mathcal{A}^w$ .  $gr_m wTT := \{m\text{-cubes}\} / \{(m+1)\text{-cubes}\}$ :



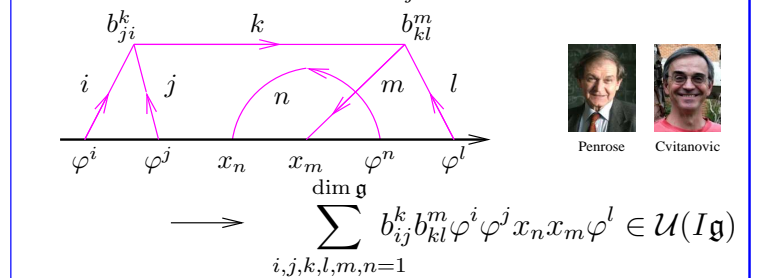
w-Jacobi diagrams and  $\mathcal{A}$ .  $\mathcal{A}^w(Y \uparrow) \cong \mathcal{A}^w(\uparrow\uparrow\uparrow)$  is



**Diagrammatic statement.** Let  $R = \exp \uparrow \in \mathcal{A}^w(\uparrow\uparrow)$ . There exist  $\omega \in \mathcal{A}^w(\uparrow)$  and  $V \in \mathcal{A}^w(\uparrow\uparrow)$  so that



**Diagrammatic to Algebraic.** With  $(x_i)$  and  $(\varphi^j)$  dual bases of  $\mathfrak{g}$  and  $\mathfrak{g}^*$  and with  $[x_i, x_j] = \sum b_{ij}^k x_k$ , we have  $\mathcal{A}^w \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$  via



**Algebraic statement.** With  $I\mathfrak{g} := \mathfrak{g}^* \rtimes \mathfrak{g}$ , with  $c : \hat{\mathcal{U}}(I\mathfrak{g}) \rightarrow \hat{\mathcal{U}}(I\mathfrak{g})/\hat{\mathcal{U}}(\mathfrak{g}) = \hat{S}(\mathfrak{g}^*)$  the obvious projection, with  $S$  the antipode of  $\hat{\mathcal{U}}(I\mathfrak{g})$ , with  $W$  the automorphism of  $\hat{\mathcal{U}}(I\mathfrak{g})$  induced by flipping the sign of  $\mathfrak{g}^*$ , with  $r \in \mathfrak{g}^* \otimes \mathfrak{g}$  the identity element and with  $R = e^r \in \hat{\mathcal{U}}(I\mathfrak{g}) \otimes \hat{\mathcal{U}}(\mathfrak{g})$  there exist  $\omega \in \hat{S}(\mathfrak{g}^*)$  and  $V \in \hat{\mathcal{U}}(I\mathfrak{g})^{\otimes 2}$  so that

(1)  $V(\Delta \otimes 1)(R) = R^{13} R^{23} V$  in  $\hat{\mathcal{U}}(I\mathfrak{g})^{\otimes 2} \otimes \hat{\mathcal{U}}(\mathfrak{g})$   
 (2)  $V \cdot SWV = 1$       (3)  $(c \otimes c)(V\Delta(\omega)) = \omega \otimes \omega$

**Unitary  $\iff$  Algebraic.** The key is to interpret  $\hat{\mathcal{U}}(I\mathfrak{g})$  as tangential differential operators on  $\text{Fun}(\mathfrak{g})$ :

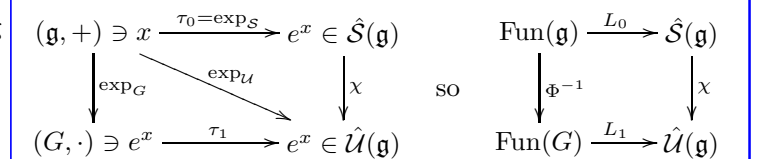
- $\varphi \in \mathfrak{g}^*$  becomes a multiplication operator.
- $x \in \mathfrak{g}$  becomes a tangential derivation, in the direction of the action of  $\text{ad } x$ :  $(x\varphi)(y) := \varphi([x, y])$ .
- $c : \hat{\mathcal{U}}(I\mathfrak{g}) \rightarrow \hat{\mathcal{U}}(I\mathfrak{g})/\hat{\mathcal{U}}(\mathfrak{g}) = \hat{S}(\mathfrak{g}^*)$  is "the constant term".

**Unitary  $\implies$  Group-Algebra.**  $\iint \omega_{x+y}^2 e^{x+y} \phi(x)\psi(y)$   
 $= \langle \omega_{x+y}, \omega_{x+y} e^{x+y} \phi(x)\psi(y) \rangle = \langle V\omega_{x+y}, V e^{x+y} \phi(x)\psi(y)\omega_{x+y} \rangle$   
 $= \langle \omega_x \omega_y, e^x e^y V \phi(x)\psi(y)\omega_{x+y} \rangle = \langle \omega_x \omega_y, e^x e^y \phi(x)\psi(y)\omega_x \omega_y \rangle$   
 $= \iint \omega_x^2 \omega_y^2 e^x e^y \phi(x)\psi(y).$

**Unitary statement.** There exists  $\omega \in \text{Fun}(\mathfrak{g})^G$  and an (infinite order) tangential differential operator  $V$  defined on  $\text{Fun}(\mathfrak{g}_x \times \mathfrak{g}_y)$  so that

(1)  $V \widehat{e^{x+y}} = \widehat{e^x e^y} V$  (allowing  $\hat{\mathcal{U}}(\mathfrak{g})$ -valued functions)  
 (2)  $VV^* = I$       (3)  $V\omega_{x+y} = \omega_x \omega_y$

**Convolutions and Group Algebras** (ignoring all Jacobians). If  $G$  is finite,  $A$  is an algebra,  $\tau : G \rightarrow A$  is multiplicative then  $(\text{Fun}(G), \star) \cong (A, \cdot)$  via  $L : f \mapsto \sum f(a)\tau(a)$ . For Lie  $(G, \mathfrak{g})$ ,



**Group-Algebra statement.** There exists  $\omega^2 \in \text{Fun}(\mathfrak{g})^G$  so that for every  $\phi, \psi \in \text{Fun}(\mathfrak{g})^G$  (with small support), the following holds in  $\hat{\mathcal{U}}(\mathfrak{g})$ : (shhh,  $\omega^2 = j^{1/2}$ )

$$\iint_{\mathfrak{g} \times \mathfrak{g}} \phi(x)\psi(y)\omega_{x+y}^2 e^{x+y} = \iint_{\mathfrak{g} \times \mathfrak{g}} \phi(x)\psi(y)\omega_x^2 \omega_y^2 e^x e^y. \quad (\text{shhh, this is Duflo})$$

with  $L_0\psi = \int \psi(x)e^x dx \in \hat{S}(\mathfrak{g})$  and  $L_1\Phi^{-1}\psi = \int \psi(x)e^x \in \hat{\mathcal{U}}(\mathfrak{g})$ . Given  $\psi_i \in \text{Fun}(\mathfrak{g})$  compare  $\Phi^{-1}(\psi_1) \star \Phi^{-1}(\psi_2)$  and  $\Phi^{-1}(\psi_1 \star \psi_2)$  in  $\hat{\mathcal{U}}(\mathfrak{g})$ : (shhh,  $L_{0/1}$  are "Laplace transforms")

$\star$  in  $G$ :  $\iint \psi_1(x)\psi_2(y)e^x e^y$        $\star$  in  $\mathfrak{g}$ :  $\iint \psi_1(x)\psi_2(y)e^{x+y}$

**Convolutions statement** (Kashiwara-Vergne). Convolutions of invariant functions on a Lie group agree with convolutions of invariant functions on its Lie algebra. More accurately, let  $G$  be a finite dimensional Lie group and let  $\mathfrak{g}$  be its Lie algebra, let  $j : \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be the Jacobian of the exponential map  $\exp : \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow G$ , and let  $\Phi : \text{Fun}(G) \rightarrow \text{Fun}(\mathfrak{g})$  be given by  $\Phi(f)(x) := j^{1/2}(x)f(\exp x)$ . Then if  $f, g \in \text{Fun}(G)$  are Ad-invariant and supported near the identity, then


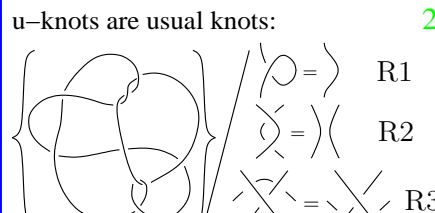

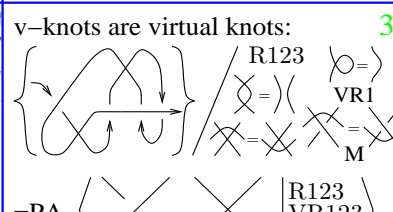

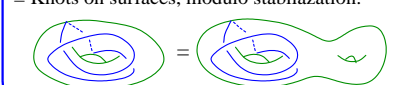
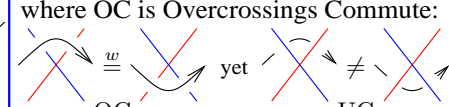
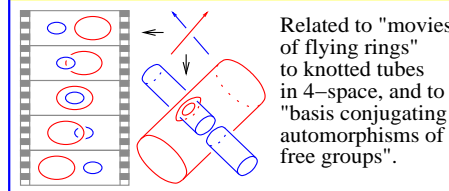
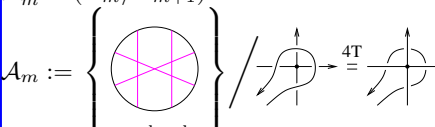

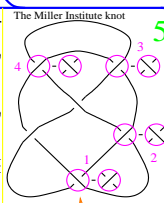
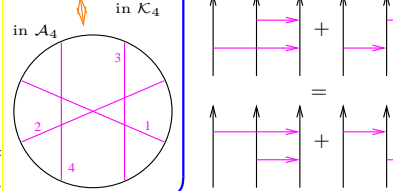


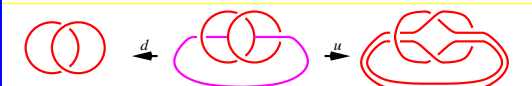
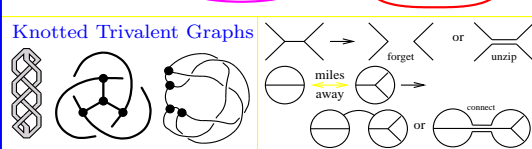
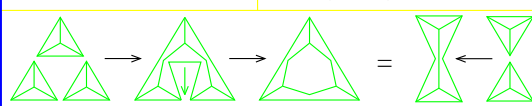

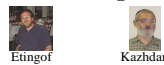
$$\Phi(f) \star \Phi(g) = \Phi(f \star g).$$

- We skipped...**
- The Alexander polynomial and Milnor numbers.
  - v-Knots, quantum groups and Etingof-Kazhdan.
  - u-Knots, Alekseev-Torossian, BF theory and the successful and Drinfel'd associators.
  - The simplest problem hyperbolic geometry solves.

<p>Written Chern-Simons</p> <p><b>u-knots</b></p> <p>u-knots are usual knots:</p> <p>=PA <math>\langle \text{R}^{\times 23} \rangle_0</math> legs</p> <p>"Knots in <math>\mathbb{R}^3</math>"</p> <p>Reidemeister</p>	<p><math>1 \rightarrow 1</math></p> <p><b>v-knots</b></p> <p>v-knots are virtual knots:</p> <p>=PA <math>\langle \text{R}^{\times 23} \rangle_0</math></p> <p>=CA <math>\langle \text{R}^{\times 23} \rangle_0</math></p> <p>= Knots on surfaces, modulo stabilization:</p> <p>Kauffman</p>	<p><math>1 \rightarrow 0</math></p> <p><b>w-knots</b></p> <p>w is for welded, weakly v, and warmup:</p> <p>4 <math>\{w\text{-knots}\} = \{v\text{-knots}\} / \langle \text{OC} \rangle</math></p> <p>where OC is Overcrossings Commute:</p> <p>yet <math>\neq</math> UC</p> <p>Related to "movies of flying rings" to knotted tubes in 4-space, and to "basis conjugating automorphisms of free groups".</p> <p>McCool Goldsmith Fenn Rimanyi Rourke Satoh Brendle Hatcher</p>
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$\mathcal{K}^u$	$\longrightarrow$	$\mathcal{K}^v$	$\longrightarrow$	$\mathcal{K}^w$
<p>Expansion exists, Eg., using the Kontsevich integral.</p> <p>No homomorphic expansion!</p>	<p>wide open</p>	<p>Homomorphic <math>\mathbb{Z}^v</math> exists!</p>	<p>Homomorphic <math>\mathbb{Z}^w</math> exists!</p>	
$\downarrow \mathbb{Z}^u$		$\downarrow \mathbb{Z}^v$		$\downarrow \mathbb{Z}^w$
$\mathcal{A}^u$	$\longrightarrow$	$\mathcal{A}^v$	$\longrightarrow$	$\mathcal{A}^w$
	$\longrightarrow$		$\longrightarrow$	
$\langle \text{4T} \rangle$		$\langle \text{6T} \rangle$		$\langle \text{TC} \rangle$ $\langle \text{4T} \rangle$
<p>4T:</p>		<p>6T:</p>		<p>TC:</p>
				<p>4T:</p>

$\downarrow \mathcal{U}^u$	$\downarrow \mathcal{U}^v$	$\downarrow \mathcal{U}^w$ <span style="color: yellow;">Today</span>
$U(\mathfrak{g})^{\otimes \mathbb{C}}$	$U(\mathfrak{g}_+ \oplus \mathfrak{g}_-)^{\otimes \mathbb{C}}$	$U(\mathbb{I}\mathfrak{g})^{\otimes \mathbb{C}}$
<p>For any metrized f.d. Lie algebra <math>\mathfrak{g}</math></p>	<p>For any f.d. Lie bialgebra <math>\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}_+ \oplus \mathfrak{g}_-</math></p>	<p>For any f.d. Lie algebra <math>\mathfrak{g}</math></p>

<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">topology</p>	<p>1  <b>u-knots</b></p> <p>u-knots are usual knots:</p>  <p>R1 R2 R3</p> <p>=PA <math>\langle \text{R123} \rangle_0</math> legs </p> <p>"Knots in <math>\mathbb{R}^3</math>"</p>	<p>1+1 <b>v-knots</b></p> <p>v-knots are virtual knots:</p>  <p>VR1 VR123 M</p> <p>=PA <math>\langle \text{R123} \rangle_0</math></p> <p>=CA <math>\langle \text{R123} \rangle_0</math> </p> <p>= Knots on surfaces, modulo stabilization:</p> 	<p>onto <b>w-knots</b></p> <p>w is for welded, weakly v, and warmup:</p> <p>4 <math>\{\text{w-knots}\} = \{\text{v-knots}\} / (\text{OC})</math></p> <p>where OC is Overcrossings Commute:</p>  <p>OC UC</p> <p>Related to "movies of flying rings" to knotted tubes in 4-space, and to "basis conjugating automorphisms of free groups".</p>  <p>McCool Goldsmith Fenn Rimanyi Rourke Satoh Brendle Hatcher</p>
	<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">combinatorics</p>	<p>Extend any <math>V : \{\text{u-knots}\} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}</math> to "singular u-knots" using <math>V(\times) := V(\times) - V(\times)</math>, and think "differentiation".</p> <p>Declare "<math>V</math> is of type <math>m</math>" iff <math>V^{(m+1)} \equiv 0</math>, think "polynomial of degree <math>m</math>".</p> <p><math>W = V^{(m)}</math> roughly determines <math>V</math>; <math>W \in \mathcal{A}_m^* = (\mathcal{K}_m / \mathcal{K}_{m+1})^*</math> with</p>  <p><math>\mathcal{A}_m := \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{m chords} \\ \text{diagram} \end{array} \right\} / \text{4T} = \text{diagram}</math></p> <p>Need an expansion <math>Z : \{\text{u-knots}\} \rightarrow \mathcal{A} = \bigoplus \mathcal{A}_m</math>.</p> <p></p>	<p>5 </p> <p>All the same, except</p> <p><math>V(\times) := V(\times) - V(\times)</math>  <math>V(\times) := V(\times) - V(\times)</math>  <math>\mathcal{A}^v := \{\text{"arrow diagrams"}\} / 6T</math></p> <p>Need a <math>Z : \{\text{v-knots}\} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}^v</math>.</p> <p>The 6T Relation (and a hidden 4T):</p> 
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">low algebra</p>		<p>10 <b>Similar</b></p> <p>with metrized Lie algebras replacing arbitrary Lie algebras</p> <p></p>	<p>9 <b>Similar</b></p> <p>with Lie bi-algebras replacing arbitrary Lie algebras</p> <p></p>
	<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">high algebra</p>	<p>11 <b>Knots are the wrong objects to study in knot theory!</b> They are not finitely generated and they carry no interesting operations.</p>  <p><b>Knotted Trivalent Graphs</b></p>  <p>forget or unzip miles away or connect</p>  <p><b>Theorem (~).</b> A homomorphic <math>Z</math> is the same as a "Drinfel'd Associator". </p>	<p>13 <b>Z is a Quantum Group?</b></p> <p>More precisely, a homomorphic <math>Z</math> ought to be equivalent to the Etingof-Kazhdan theory of deformation quantization of Lie bialgebras.</p> <p></p> <p><b>Dror's Dream: Straighten and fatten this column.</b></p> <p><b>An Idle Question.</b> Is there physics in this column?</p>



Motivation Homology measures our failure to construct all solutions of a given equation:



$$\mathbb{R}_\theta^1 \xrightarrow{d^1} \mathbb{R}_{x,y}^2 \xrightarrow{d^2} \mathbb{R}_r^1$$

$$\theta \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta \\ \sin \theta \end{pmatrix} \quad (x,y) \mapsto \sqrt{x^2+y^2}$$

$$d^2 \circ d^1 = \cos \sin \theta$$

$$V \xrightarrow{d_1} W \xrightarrow{d_2} Z$$

$$\text{im } d_1 \subset \ker d_2 \Leftrightarrow d_2 \circ d_1 = 0$$

$$H(W) := \ker d_2 / \text{im } d_1$$

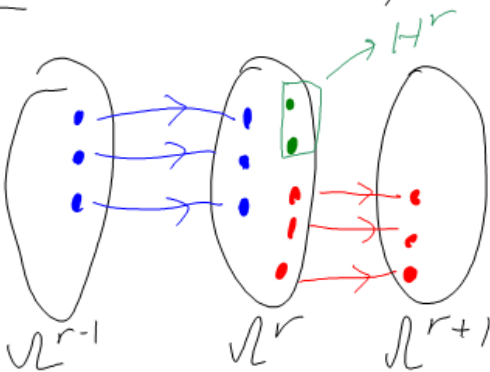
Euler Characteristic

Theorem If everything is finite, then

$$\sum (-1)^r \dim \mathcal{N}^r = \sum (-1)^r \dim H^r$$

$$=: \chi(\mathcal{N})$$

Proof (more or less)



Definition A "complex" is a long chain of "parametrization problems":

$$\mathcal{N} = (\dots \rightarrow \mathcal{N}^{r-1} \xrightarrow{d^{r-1}} \mathcal{N}^r \xrightarrow{d^r} \mathcal{N}^{r+1} \rightarrow \dots)$$

s.t.  $d^2 = 0$  or  $\text{im}(d) \subset \ker(d)$

Homology:

$$H^r(\mathcal{N}) := \ker d^r / \text{im } d^{r-1}$$

The "parametrization failure" at step  $r$ .

[I don't understand why "long" complexes are so common 😊]

Morphisms and Homotopy

Morphisms:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \dots & \rightarrow & \mathcal{N}_0^{r-1} & \xrightarrow{d^{r-1}} & \mathcal{N}_0^r & \xrightarrow{d^r} & \mathcal{N}_0^{r+1} & \rightarrow & \dots \\ & & \downarrow F^{r-1} & & \downarrow F^r & & \downarrow F^{r+1} & & \\ \dots & \rightarrow & \mathcal{N}_1^{r-1} & \xrightarrow{d^{r-1}} & \mathcal{N}_1^r & \xrightarrow{d^r} & \mathcal{N}_1^{r+1} & \rightarrow & \dots \end{array}$$

Homotopies:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \mathcal{N}_0^{r-1} & \xrightarrow{d^{r-1}} & \mathcal{N}_0^r & \xrightarrow{d^r} & \mathcal{N}_0^{r+1} \\ \downarrow F^{r-1} \parallel G^{r-1} & \swarrow h^r & \downarrow F^r \parallel G^r & \swarrow h^{r+1} & \downarrow F^{r+1} \parallel G^{r+1} \\ \mathcal{N}_1^{r-1} & \xrightarrow{d^{r-1}} & \mathcal{N}_1^r & \xrightarrow{d^r} & \mathcal{N}_1^{r+1} \end{array}$$

$$F^r - G^r = h^{r+1} d^r + d^{r-1} h^r$$

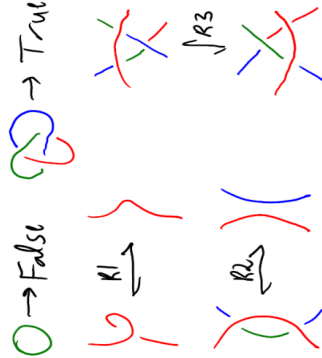
If there are  $\mathcal{N}_0 \xrightleftharpoons[h]{f} \mathcal{N}_1$   
 s.t.  $f \circ g \sim I_{\mathcal{N}_0}$  and  $g \circ f \sim I_{\mathcal{N}_1}$   
 then " $\mathcal{N}_0$  &  $\mathcal{N}_1$  are homotopy equivalent" [and they have equal homology]

October 08-08  
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**Problem** Prove that  $O \neq \emptyset$ .

**Proof** Define an "invariant"

$I(D) := \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } D \text{ can be coloured RGB} \\ \text{w/o any crossings} \\ \text{So that all colours are} \\ \text{is either mono- or tri-chromatic} \end{cases}$   
 $E \in \{True, False\}$



Taken from Rob Scharein's site, <http://knotplot.com/zoo/>  
 $\Rightarrow$  Knot Colouring isn't enough.

### Algebraic Knot Theory

Calculus in Mathematics

University of Copenhagen, October 9, 2008

**Abstract:** The right objects of study in algebraic topology are not spaces, but rather "spaces and maps between them". In a similar spirit I will show that the right things to study in knot theory are knots, but rather "knots and invariants". As in the world of knotted trivalent graphs (and the basic operations between them) many interesting properties of these knots become "definable". This I find myself again studying the good old Koschier integral - the best example I know of in algebraic knot theory - but my perspective this time is completely different.

**Menu**

- Some very basic knot theory.
  - The three-colouring invariant.
  - The Kauffman bracket and the Jones polynomial.
- Three things we'd like to understand:
  - The genus of a knot.
  - The crossing number of a knot.
- CG-algebras and TG-morphisms.
  - Aside 1: KTG is finitely generated (and presented).
  - Aside 2: And it is related to Drinfeld
- A word about "definable" sets.
  - A very strong TG-morphism exists! (But it is too hard...)
  - Internal quotients of the Alexander polynomial.
  - Internal quotients. (Likely more than just Lie algebras, may have "moduli" rather than just discrete points).
- Open questions and proposals.

Also see my talk in Aarhus, June 2007. Much progress was made since, but the introductory talk (this one) remains more or less the same.

### Three Basic Problems

October 08-08  
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- Determine the "genus" of a knot.
- Determine the "unknotting number" of a knot.
- Decide if a knot is "Ribbon".

"ribbon singularity", allowed  $\rightarrow$   $\rightarrow$

"cusp", not allowed  $\rightarrow$   $\rightarrow$

(Image by Suszanna Danesca)

**Ribbon**

**Not**

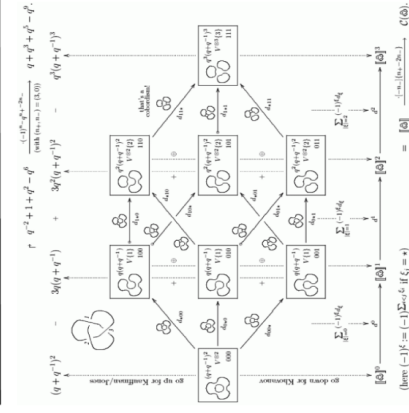
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$\langle X \rangle = \langle Y \rangle - q \langle Z \rangle$   
 o-untwisting, o-twisting

$\langle O \rangle = (q + q^{-1})^k$

$\mathcal{J}(L) = (-1)^{n(L)} q^{w(L)} \langle L \rangle$

$(n, w, L)$  count  $(\mathcal{J}, X, \mathcal{J})$



Largely strong enough!

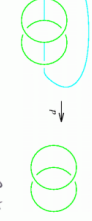
### Claim 3

man or less  
 $\{\text{Ribbon knots}\} = \{X \in K(\mathbb{O}) : dx = \mathbb{O}\}$

where:



and



### Algebraic knot Theory:



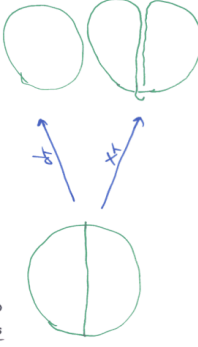
So

$Z(\{\text{Ribbon}\}) \subset \{X \in Z(\mathbb{O}) : dx = \mathbb{O}\} \subset A(\mathbb{O})$

And we should choose to find a counterexample to  $\{\text{Ribbon}\} = \{ \text{Slice} \}$ !

### Claim 2

knottings of  $\emptyset$   
 $K(\mathbb{O}) = \{ \text{knotts of unknotting} \} = \{ X \in K(\mathbb{O}) : dx = \mathbb{O} \}$   
 where  $\mathbb{O}$  is the unknot.



### Algebraic knot Theory:



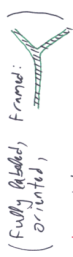
So

$Z(\{\text{unknoting}\}) \subset \{X \in Z(\mathbb{O}) : dx = \mathbb{O}\}$

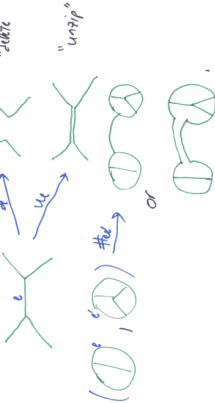
and we should choose to learn something about unknotting numbers algebraically.

Aside 1

So many interesting properties of knots are determinable using knotted Trivalent caps (KTCs)



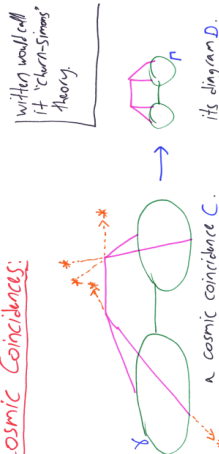
and the basic operations between them:



We seek a "TB-morphism" into algebra:

- $\forall \Gamma$  an algebraic space  $A(\Gamma)$ ,  $Z_\Gamma: K(\Gamma) \rightarrow A(\Gamma)$ .
- $d, u, \#$  defined on the  $A(\Gamma)$ 's.
- $K(\Gamma) \xrightarrow{Z} A(\Gamma)$   
 $\downarrow u$   
 $K(u\Gamma) \xrightarrow{Z} A(u\Gamma)$   
 $\downarrow u$   
 $K(u^2\Gamma) \xrightarrow{Z} A(u^2\Gamma)$   
 etc.

Cosmic Coincidences:



Definition (Dyhn)

$$Z(\chi) = \sum_C D \in A(\Gamma) =$$



(lots of work is hidden here, and some unknowns)

Behavior under  $\chi \rightarrow //$  is predictable.

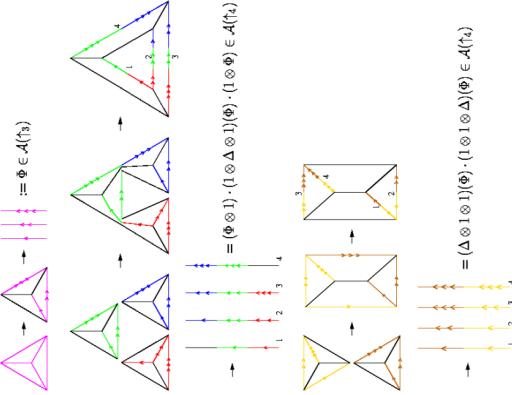
Aside 2

Let you think it is easy...



Claim. With  $\Phi := Z(\Delta)$ , the above relation becomes equivalent to the Drinfel'd's pentagon of the theory of quasi Hopf algebras.

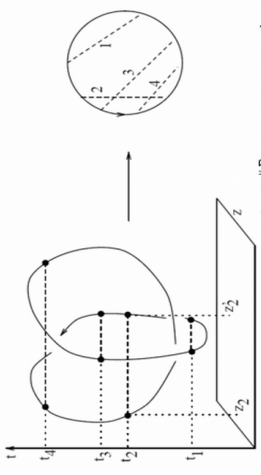
Proof.



Abstract

We construct a (very) well-behaved invariant of knotted trivalent graphs using only the Kontsevich integral, in three steps.

Step 1 - The Naive Kontsevich Integral



$$Z_0(K) = \sum_{m, t_1 < \dots < t_m, P = \{(z_1, z_1')\}} \frac{(-1)^{\#F_1}}{(2\pi i)^m} D_P \prod_{i=1}^m \frac{dz_i - dz_i'}{z_i - z_i'}$$

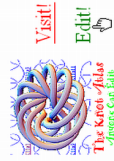
We define the "naive Kontsevich integral"  $Z_0$  of a knotted trivalent graph or a slice thereof as in the "standard" picture above, except generalized to graphs in the obvious manner.

Some propaganda...



"God created the knots, all else in topology is the work of mortals."

Leonid Kontsevich (modified)

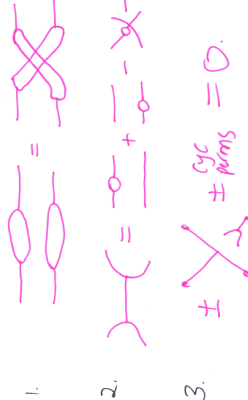


I don't understand... (more)

- Who needs "trivalent" in "knotted trivalent graph"? (more)
- The notion of "framing" (more)
- Configuration space integrals? perturbative Chern-Simons theory for knotted graphs (more)
- The Alexander polynomial (more)
- The Lieberman  $g(1/1)$  associator (more)
- Most associators be so hard? Why? (more)
- The relationship between "genus" and "finite type" (more)
- The relationship between "genus" and "finite type" (more)
- TG-ideals: internal quotients.
- What exactly are TG-algebras? What are the syzygies among the relations between their generators?
- Virtual knots
- Quantum groups? (more)
- The work of Engel and Kazhdan.
- The polynomiality of knot polynomials
- Functional equations
- The Etingberg-Zuker theorem
- Which other interesting classes of tanglelinks are TG-definable?

Theorem There is a minimal quotient containing the Alexander polynomial.

Proof Use the "internal kernel" of the Alexander weight system:



What remains is a polynomial amount of information!

Conjecture This explains everything that we know about the Alexander polynomial.

Internal Quotients

Involves only chords and no strands.

Examples:

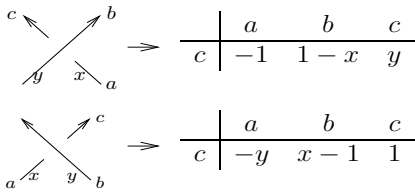
- Diagram of a square with a diagonal, labeled "The Lie algebra is 3-dimensional" (i.e., it is  $\mathfrak{sl}(2)$ ...)
- Diagram of a Y-junction, labeled "Diagrams are (very) shallow" (related to  $\mathfrak{sl}(1|1)$  Alexander)
- Diagram of a pentagon, labeled "Pentagons shy out"

4, 5, ... Use your imagination.

Classification?

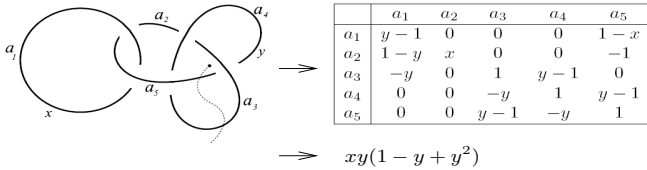
# The Penultimate Alexander Invariant

A Definition of the MVA (From [Ar])

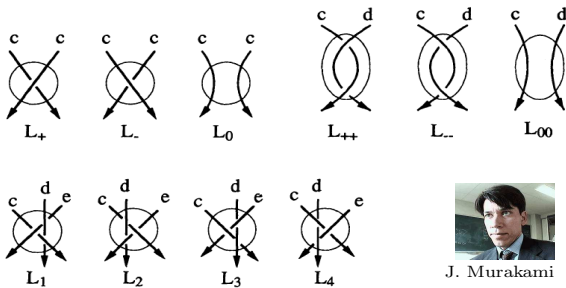


Joint with  
Jana Archibald

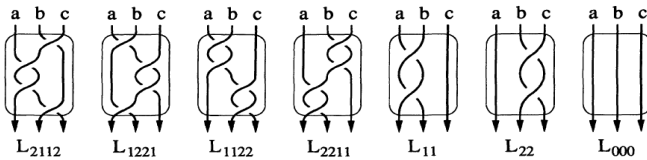
$$A = \frac{(-)^{i+j} \det(M_i^j)}{w_i(t_i-1)} \prod_k t_k^{\frac{\text{rot}(k)-\mu(k)}{2}}$$



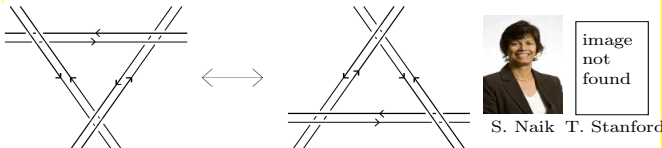
Relations by J. Murakami (From [MJ])



J. Murakami

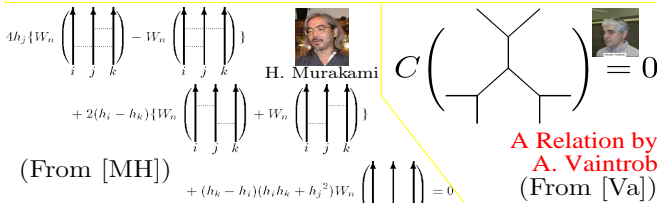


The Naik-Stanford Double Delta Relation (From [NS])



S. Naik T. Stanford

image not found



A Relation by H. Murakami

There's Lots More!

"God created the knots,  
all else in topology  
is the work of mortals"  
Leopold Kronecker (paraphrased)



Visit!  
Edit!

<http://katlas.org>

This handout and further links are at

<http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Talks/Sandbjerg-0810/>

**Our Goal.** Prove all these relations uniformly, at maximal confidence and minimal brain utilization.

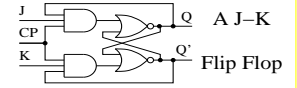
$\Rightarrow$  We need an "Alexander Invariant" for arbitrary tangles, easy to define and compute and well-behaved under tangle compositions; better, "virtual tangles".

## Circuit Algebras

\* Have "circuits" with "ends",

\* Can be wired arbitrarily.

\* May have "relations" - de-Morgan, etc.



**Example**  $VT = CA \langle \times, \times, \times \rangle / R23 = PA \langle \times, \times, \times \rangle / R23, VR123, MR3$

**Reminders** from linear algebra. If  $X$  is a (finite) set,

$$\Lambda^k(X) := \langle k\text{-tuples in } X, \text{ modulo anti-symmetry} \rangle$$

$$\Lambda^{\text{top}}(X) := \langle |X|\text{-tuples in } X, \text{ modulo anti-symmetry} \rangle$$

$$\Lambda^{1/2}(X) := \langle (|X|/2)\text{-tuples in } X, \text{ modulo anti-symmetry} \rangle.$$

If  $Y \subset X^m$ , the "interior multiplication"  $i_Y : \Lambda^k(X) \rightarrow \Lambda^{k-m}(X)$  is anti-symmetric in  $Y$ .

**Definition.** An "Alexander half density with input strands  $X^{\text{in}}$  and output strands  $X^{\text{out}}$ " is an element of

$$\text{AHD}(X^{\text{in}}, X^{\text{out}}) := \Lambda^{\text{top}}(X^{\text{out}}) \otimes \Lambda^{1/2}(X^{\text{in}} \cup X^{\text{out}}).$$

Often we extend the coefficients to some polynomial ring without warning.

**Definition.** If  $\alpha_i \otimes p_i \in \text{AHD}(X_i^{\text{in}}, X_i^{\text{out}})$  (for  $i = 1, 2$ ), and  $G = (X_1^{\text{in}} \cup X_2^{\text{in}}) \cap (X_1^{\text{out}} \cup X_2^{\text{out}})$  is the set of "gluable legs", the "gluing" in  $\text{AHD}(X_1^{\text{in}} \cup X_2^{\text{in}} - G, X_1^{\text{out}} \cup X_2^{\text{out}} - G)$  is

$$i_G(\alpha_1 \wedge \alpha_2) \otimes i_G(p_1 \wedge p_2).$$

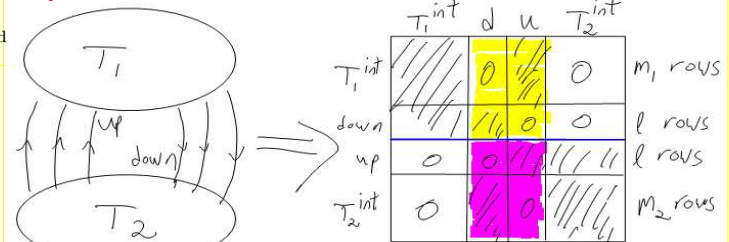
**Claim.** This makes AHD a circuit algebra.

**Definition.** The "Penultimate Alexander Invariant" is defined using

$$pA : \begin{matrix} k & j \\ \times & \\ l & i \end{matrix} \mapsto (j \wedge k) \otimes \begin{pmatrix} l \wedge i + (t_i - 1)l \wedge j - t_l l \wedge k \\ + i \wedge j + t_{ij} l \wedge k \end{pmatrix}$$

$$pA : \begin{matrix} l & k \\ \times & \\ i & j \end{matrix} \mapsto (k \wedge l) \otimes \begin{pmatrix} t_{ji} l \wedge j - t_{ji} l \wedge l + j \wedge k \\ + (t_i - 1)j \wedge l + k \wedge l \end{pmatrix}$$

**Why Works?**



Every "rook arrangement" in the above picture must have exactly  $l$  rooks in the yellow zone and  $l$  rooks in the purple zone. So for  $T_1$  we only care about the minors in which exactly  $l$  of the  $2l$  middle columns are dropped, and the rest is signs...

**Weaknesses.** Exponential, no understanding of cablings, no obvious "meaning". The ultimate Alexander invariant should address all that...

**Challenge.** Can you categorify this?

Dror Bar-Natan: Talks: Sandbjerg-0810: The Penultimate Alexander Invariant:  
**We Mean Business**

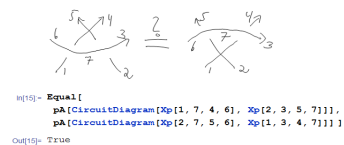
```

1      (* WP: Wedge Product *)
2  WSort[expr_] := Expand[expr /. w_W -> Signature[w]*Sort[w]];
3  WP[0, _] = WP[_ , 0] = 0;
4  WP[a_, b_] := WSort[Distribute[a ** b] /.
5      (c1_ * w1_W) ** (c2_ * w2_W) -> c1 c2 Join[w1, w2]];
6
7      (* IM: Interior Multiplication *)
8  IM[{}, expr_] := expr;
9  IM[i_, w_W] := If[FreeQ[w, i], 0,
10     -(-1)^Position[w, i][[1,1]]*DeleteCases[w, i]];
11  IM[{is___, i_}, w_W] := IM[{is}, IM[i, w]];
12  IM[is_List, expr_] := expr /. w_W -> IM[is, w]
13
14      (* pA on Crossings *)
15  pA[Xp[i_,j_,k_,l_]] := AHD[(t[i]==t[k])(t[j]==t[l]), {i,l}, W[j,k],
16     W[l,i] + (t[i]-1)W[l,j] - t[l]W[l,k] + W[i,j] + t[l]W[j,k]];
17  pA[Xm[i_,j_,k_,l_]] := AHD[(t[i]==t[k])(t[j]==t[l]), {i,j}, W[k,l],
18     t[j]W[i,j] - t[j]W[i,l] + W[j,k] + (t[i]-1)W[j,l] + W[k,l]]
19
20      (* Variable Equivalences *)
21  ReductionRules[Times[]] = {};
22  ReductionRules[Equal[a_, b_]] := (# -> a) & /@ {b};
23  ReductionRules[eqs_Times] := Join @@ (ReductionRules /@ List@@eqs)
24
25      (* AHD: Alexander Half Densities *)
26  AHD[eqs_, is_, -os_, p_] := AHD[eqs, is, os, Expand[-p]];
27  AHD /: Reduce[AHD[eqs_, is_, os_, p_]] :=
28     AHD[eqs, Sort[is], WSort[os], WSort[p /. ReductionRules[eqs]]];
29  AHD /: AHD[eqs1_, is1_, os1_, p1_] AHD[eqs2_, is2_, os2_, p2_] := Module[
30     {glued = Intersection[Union[is1, is2], List@@Union[os1, os2]]},
31     Reduce[AHD[
32         eqs1*eqs2 /. eq1_Equal*eq2_Equal /.
33         Intersection[List@@eq1, List@@eq2] != {} -> Union[eq1, eq2],
34         Complement[Union[is1, is2], glued],
35         IM[glued, WP[os1, os2]],
36         IM[glued, WP[p1, p2]]
37     ] ]
38
39      (* pA on Circuit Diagrams *)
40  pA[cd_CircuitDiagram, eqs___] := pA[cd, {}, AHD[Times[eqs], {}], W[], W[]];
41  pA[cd_CircuitDiagram, done_, ahd_AHD] := Module[
42     {pos = First[Ordering[Length[Complement[List @@ #, done]] & /@ cd]]},
43     pA[Delete[cd, pos], Union[done, List @@ cd[[pos]], ahd*pA[cd[[pos]]]]
44 ];
45  pA[CircuitDiagram[], _, ahd_AHD] := ahd

```

Comments online **2**.  $W[i_1, i_2, \dots]$  represents  $i_1 \wedge i_2 \wedge \dots$ . To sort it we Sort its arguments and multiply by the Signature of the permutation used. **3**. The wedge product of 0 with anything is 0. **4-5**. The wedge product of two things involves applying the Distributive law, Joining all pairs of W's, and WSorting the result. **8**. Inner multiplying by an empty list of indices does nothing. **9-10**. Inner multiplying a single index yields 0 if that index is not present, otherwise it's a sign and the index is deleted. **11-12**. Afterwards it's simple recursion. **15-18**. For the crossings Xp and Xm it is straightforward to determine the incoming strands, the outgoing ones, and the variable equivalences. The associated half-densities are just as in the formulas. **21-23**. The technicalities of imposing variable equivalences are annoying. **26**. That's all we need from the definition of a tensor product. **27-28**. Straightforward simplifications. **29**. The (circuit algebra) product of two Alexander Half Densities: **30**. The glued strands are the intersection of the ins and the outs. **32-33**. Merging the variable equivalences is tricky but natural. **34-35**. Removing the glued strands from the ins and outs. **36 The Key Point**. The wedge product of the half-densities, inner with the glued strands. **40-45**. A quick implementation of a "thin scanning" algorithm for multiple products. The key line is **42**, where we select the next crossing we multiply in to be the crossing with the fewest "loose strands".

Overcrossings Commute



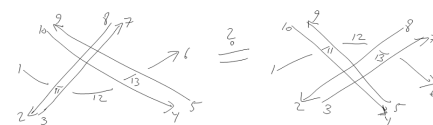
Hence "w-knots"

```

In[15]= Equal[
  pA[CircuitDiagram[Xp[1, 7, 4, 6], Xp[2, 3, 5, 7]]],
  pA[CircuitDiagram[Xp[2, 7, 5, 6], Xp[1, 3, 4, 7]]]]
Out[15]= True

```

Commutators Commute



Question.

Does this specify the Alexander polynomial?

```

In[5]= Equal[
  pA[CircuitDiagram[Xp[1, 2, 11, 8], Xm[11, 3, 12, 7],
  Xp[12, 4, 13, 10], Xm[13, 5, 6, 9]], t[2]=t[3], t[4]=t[5]],
  pA[CircuitDiagram[Xp[1, 4, 11, 10], Xm[11, 5, 12, 9],
  Xp[12, 2, 13, 8], Xm[13, 3, 6, 7]], t[2]=t[3], t[4]=t[5]]]
Out[5]= True

```

A very large output was generated. Here is a sample of it:

```

{9.86, {AHD[(t[1]==t[2]==t[3]==t[4]==t[5]==t[6]==t[7]==t[8]==t[9]==t[10])
(t[11]==t[12]==t[13]==t[14]==t[15]==t[16]==t[17]==t[18]==t[19]==t[20])
(t[21]==t[22]==t[23]==t[24]==t[25]==t[26]==t[27]==t[28]==t[29]==t[30]),
{1, 6, 11, 16, 21, 26}, <<1>>,
-t[1]^2 t[11]^2 t[21]^2 W[1, 5, 6, 11, 15, 21] + <<2574>>, <<1>>}}

```

In[11]= Equal @@ (Last /@ res4) (The program also prints "False" when appropriate, and computes Alexander polynomials) Out[11]= True

More at <http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Sandbjerg-0810/pA.nb>

References

[Ar] J. Archibald, *The Weight System of the Multivariable Alexander Polynomial*, arXiv:0710.4885.

[MH] H. Murakami, *A Weight System Derived from the Multivariable Conway Potential Function*, Jour. of the London Math. Soc. **59** (1999) 698-714, arXiv:math/9903108.

[MJ] J. Murakami, *A State Model for the Multi-Variable Alexander Polynomial*, Pac. Jour. of Math. **157-1** (1993) 109-135.

[NS] S. Naik and T. Stanford, *A Move on Diagrams that Generates S-Equivalence of Knots*, Jour. of Knot Theory and its Ramifications **12-5** (2003) 717-724, arXiv:math/9911005.

[Va] A. Vaintrob, *Melvin-Morton Conjecture and Primitive Feynman Diagrams*, Inter. J. Math. **8** (1997) 537-553, arXiv:q-alg/9605028.

# Projectivization, w-Knots, Kashiwara-Vergne and Alekseev-Torossian

"An Algebraic Structure"

## The Categorification Speculative Paradigm.

- Every object in math is the Euler characteristic of a complex.
- Every operation in math lifts to an operation between complexes.
- Every identity in mathematics is true up to homotopy.

## The Projectivization Tentative Speculative Paradigm. Projectivization?

- Every graded algebraic structure in mathematics is the projectivization of a plain ("global") one.
- Every equation written in a graded algebraic structure is an equation for a homomorphic expansion, or for an automorphism of such.

## Graded Equations Examples

- $e(x + y) = e(x)e(y)$  in  $\mathbb{Q}[[x, y]]$ .
- The pentagon and hexagons in  $\mathcal{A}(\uparrow_{3,4})$ .
- The equations defining a QUEA, the work of Etingof and Kazhdan.

## The Alekseev-Torossian equations in $\mathcal{U}(\text{sder}_n)$ and $\mathcal{U}(\text{tder}_n)$ .

sder  $\leftrightarrow$  tree-level  $\mathcal{A}$   
tder  $\leftrightarrow$  more

$$F \in \mathcal{U}(\text{tder}_2); \quad F^{-1}e(x + y)F = e(x)e(y) \iff F \in \text{Solo}$$

$$\Phi = \Phi_F := (F^{12,3})^{-1}(F^{1,2})^{-1}F^{23}F^{1,23} \in \mathcal{U}(\text{sder}_3)$$

$$\Phi^{1,2,3}\Phi^{1,23,4}\Phi^{2,3,4} = \Phi^{12,3,4}\Phi^{1,2,34} \quad \text{"the pentagon"}$$

$$t = \frac{1}{2}(y, x) \in \text{sder}_2 \text{ satisfies } 4T \quad \text{and} \quad r = (y, 0) \in \text{tder}_2 \text{ satisfies } 6T$$

$$R := e(r) \text{ satisfies Yang-Baxter: } R^{12}R^{13}R^{23} = R^{23}R^{13}R^{12}$$

$$\text{also } R^{12,3} = R^{13}R^{23} \text{ and } F^{23}R^{1,23}(F^{23})^{-1} = R^{12}R^{13}$$

$$\tau(F) := RF^{21}e(-t) \text{ is an involution, } \Phi_{\tau(F)} = (\Phi_F^{321})^{-1}$$

$$\text{Sol}_0^r := \{F : \tau(F) = F\} \text{ is non-empty; for } F \in \text{Sol}_0^r,$$

$$e(t^{13} + t^{23}) = \Phi^{213}e(t^{13})(\Phi^{231})^{-1}e(t^{23})\Phi^{321}$$

$$\text{and } e(t^{12} + t^{13}) = (\Phi^{132})^{-1}e(t^{13})\Phi^{312}e(t^{12})\Phi$$



Alekseev

This is just a part of the Alekseev-Torossian work!

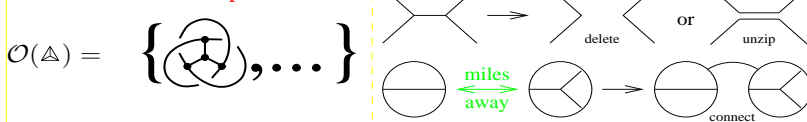


Torossian

- Related to the Kashiwara-Vergne Conjecture!
- Will likely lead to an explicit tree-level associator, a linear equation away from a 1-loop equation, two linear equations away from a 2-loop associator, etc.!
- A baby version of the QUEA equations; we may be on the right tracks!

So What?

## Knotted Trivalent Graphs



**Theorem.** KTG is generated by the unknotted  $\Delta$  and the Möbius band, with identifiable relations between them.

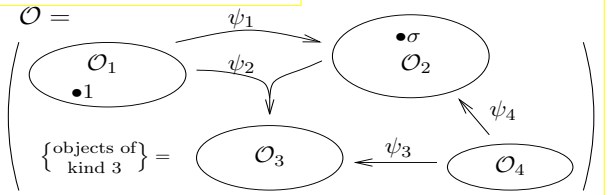
**Theorem.**  $Z(\Delta)$  is equivalent to an associator  $\Phi$ .



Algebraic Knot Theory

**Theorem.**  $\{\text{ribbon knots}\} \sim \{u\gamma : \gamma \in \mathcal{O}(\circ\circ), d\gamma = \circ\circ\}$ .

Hence an expansion for KTG may tell us about ribbon knots, knots of genus 5, boundary links, etc.



- Has kinds, objects, operations, and maybe constants.
- Perhaps subject to some axioms.
- We always allow formal linear combinations.

Defining  $\text{proj } \mathcal{O}$ . The augmentation "ideal":

$$I = I_{\mathcal{O}} := \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{formal differences of ob-} \\ \text{jects "of the same kind"} \end{array} \right\}$$

Then  $I^n := \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{all outputs of algebraic} \\ \text{expressions at least } n \text{ of} \\ \text{whose inputs are in } I \end{array} \right\}$ , and

$$\text{proj } \mathcal{O} := \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} I^n / I^{n+1} \quad \left( \begin{array}{l} \text{has same kinds and opera-} \\ \text{tions, but different objects} \\ \text{and axioms} \end{array} \right)$$

## Knot Theory Anchors.

- $(\mathcal{O}/I^{n+1})^*$  is "type  $n$  invariants".
- $(I^n/I^{n+1})^*$  is "weight systems".
- $\text{proj } \mathcal{O}$  is  $\mathcal{A}$ , "chord diagrams".



Vassiliev

Goussarov

## Warmup Examples.

- The projectivization of a group is a graded associative algebra.
- A quandle: a set  $Q$  with a binary op  $\wedge$  s.t.

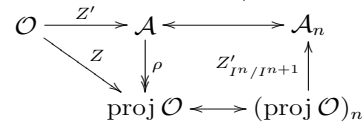
$$1 \wedge x = 1, \quad x \wedge 1 = x \wedge x = x, \quad (\text{appetizers})$$

$$(x \wedge y) \wedge z = (x \wedge z) \wedge (y \wedge z). \quad (\text{main})$$

$\text{proj } Q$  is a graded Lie algebra: set  $\bar{v} := (v - 1)$  (these generate  $I$ ), feed  $1 + \bar{x}, 1 + \bar{y}, 1 + \bar{z}$  in (main), collect the surviving terms of lowest degree:

$$(\bar{x} \wedge \bar{y}) \wedge \bar{z} = (\bar{x} \wedge \bar{z}) \wedge \bar{y} + \bar{x} \wedge (\bar{y} \wedge \bar{z}).$$

**An Expansion** is  $Z: \mathcal{O} \rightarrow \text{proj } \mathcal{O}$  s.t.  $Z(I^n) \subset (\text{proj } \mathcal{O})_{\geq n}$  and  $Z_{I^n/I^{n+1}} = Id_{I^n/I^{n+1}}$  (A "universal finite type invariant"). In practice, it is hard to determine  $\text{proj } \mathcal{O}$ , but easy to guess a surjection  $\rho: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \text{proj } \mathcal{O}$ . So find  $Z': \mathcal{O} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  with  $Z'(I^n) \subset \mathcal{A}_{\geq n}$  and  $Z'_{I^n/I^{n+1}} \circ \rho_n = Id_{\mathcal{A}_n}$ :



Can you make this diagram less confusing?



X-S. Lin

**Homomorphic Expansions** are expansions that intertwine the algebraic structure on  $\mathcal{O}$  and  $\text{proj } \mathcal{O}$ . They provide finite / combinatorial handles on global problems.

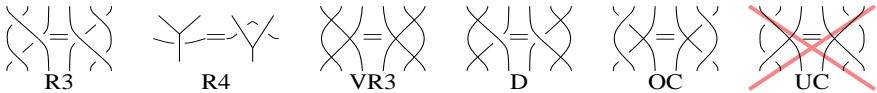
**The Key Point.** If  $\mathcal{O}$  is finitely presented, finding a homomorphic expansion is solving finitely many equations with finitely many unknowns, in some graded spaces.

**Trivalent (framed) w-tangles:**

$$wTT = CA \langle \text{trivalent diagrams} \rangle / R123, R4 \text{ (for vertices)}, F, OC.$$

$$= PA \langle \text{trivalent diagrams} \rangle / R1234, F, VR1234, D, OC.$$

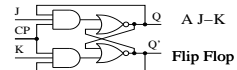
(=tangles in thick surfaces, modulo stabilization)



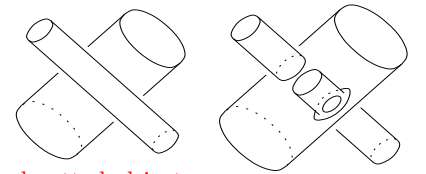
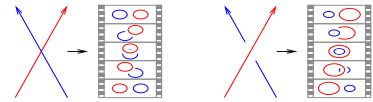
further operations: delete, unzip.

**Circuit Algebras**

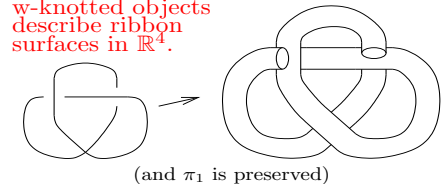
- \* Have "circuits" with "ends"
- \* Can be wired arbitrarily.
- \* May have "relations" – de-Morgan, etc.



**w-braids describe flying rings:**



w-knotted objects describe ribbon surfaces in  $\mathbb{R}^4$ .



(and  $\pi_1$  is preserved)

**Partial Dictionary.**

$$(R, F) \leftrightarrow (\text{trivalent vertex}, \text{trivalent vertex}) \quad (r, t) \leftrightarrow (\text{trivalent vertex}, \text{trivalent vertex})$$

$$R^{12}R^{13}R^{23} = R^{23}R^{13}R^{12} \leftrightarrow \text{trivalent vertex} = \text{trivalent vertex}$$

$$FF^! = I \leftrightarrow \text{trivalent vertex} \xrightarrow{\text{unzip}} \text{trivalent vertex}$$

$$F^{-1}e(x+y)F = e(x)e(y)$$

$$F^{23}R^{123} = R^{12}R^{13}F^{23} \leftrightarrow \text{trivalent vertex} = \text{trivalent vertex}$$

$$R^{12,3} = R^{13}R^{23}$$

$$F^{123}R^{12,3} = R^{13}R^{23}F^{12,3} \leftrightarrow \text{trivalent vertex} = \text{trivalent vertex}$$

(unforbidding FI makes this automatic)

$$RF^{21}e(-t) = F \leftrightarrow \text{trivalent vertex} = \text{trivalent vertex}$$

**For the Experienced (and sharp-eyed)**

The "Chord Diagrams" —  $A_n^{wt}$ . AS we did for quandles, substitute into the various moves, to get relations. Also switch to arrow diagram language:  $\text{trivalent vertex} \leftrightarrow \text{trivalent vertex}$ . Get:  
 $R3 \mapsto \text{trivalent vertex} - \text{trivalent vertex} = \text{trivalent vertex} - \text{trivalent vertex}$  (tails commute)  
 $R4 \mapsto \text{trivalent vertex} + \text{trivalent vertex} = 0$  (vertex invariance)

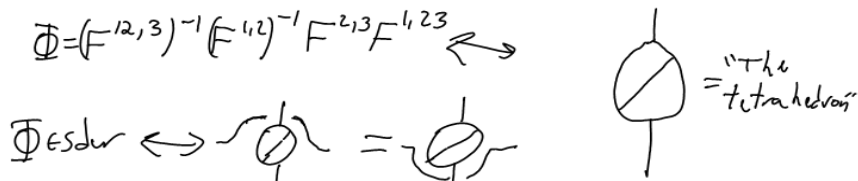
The "Jacobi Diagrams" —  $A_n^{cc}$ . **Theorem.**  $A_n^{wt}$  is  $A_n^{cc}$  is  $U(\text{tder}_n)$ . Here  $A_n^{cc}$  is trivalent directed trees with only 2-in 1-out vertices. In tensorland, this is "Co-commutative Lie-bialgebras".  
 Rules: tails commute, Heads satisfy the only possible STX: +also IHX and vertex invariance

The Map  $\alpha: A_n^{tree} \rightarrow A_n^{cc}$ :  $\text{trivalent vertex} \mapsto \text{trivalent vertex} + \text{trivalent vertex}$   
**Theorem.**  $\alpha$  is an injection on  $A_n^{tree} \cong U(\text{sder}_n)$ . Furthermore, there is a simple characterization of  $\text{im } \alpha$ , so we can tell "an arrowless element" when we see it.

**The Main Theorem.** (approximate, false as stated)  $F^n$ 's in  $\text{Sol}_0^n$  are in a bijective correspondance with tree-level associators for ordinary parenthesized tangles (or ordinary knotted trivalent graphs) / with homomorphic expansions for trivalent w-tangles / with solutions of the Kashiwara-Vergne problem.

**Extra.** Restricted to knots, we get precisely the Alexander polynomial.

**Disclaimer.** Orientations, rotation numbers, framings, the vertical direction and the cyclic symmetry of the vertex may still make everything uglier. I hope not.



The pentagon and The hexagons Follow, with a minor twist, from The fact that we have an unzip behaved invariant of KTG's.

"God created the knots, all else in topology is the work of mortals"  
 Leopold Kronecker (paraphrased)

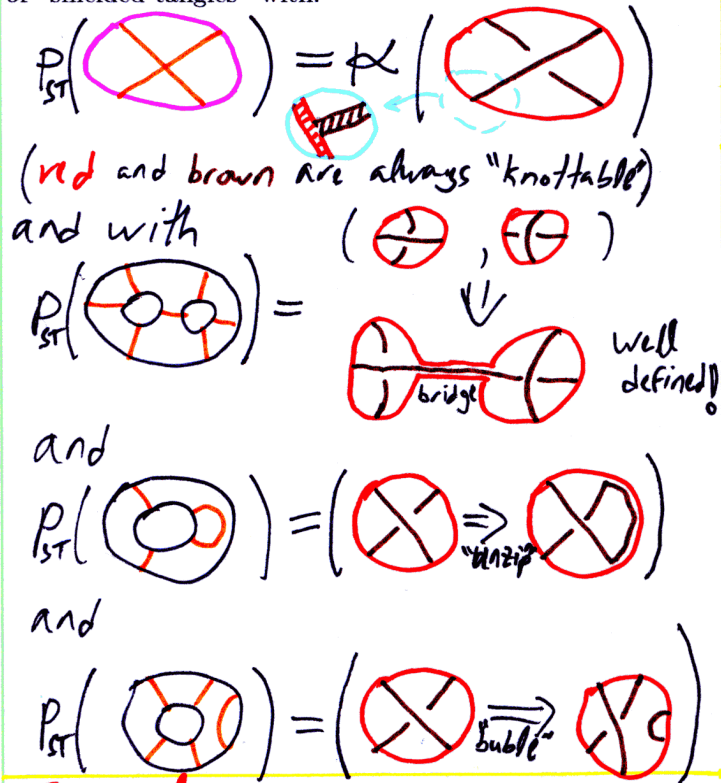


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 Edit!

<http://katlas.org>

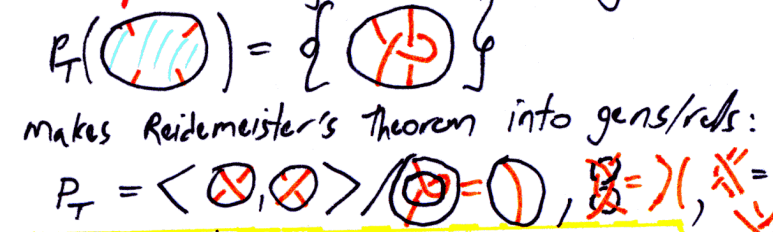
This handout and further links are at <http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Talks/MSRI-0808/>

Theorem. There exists a skeletal (very) planar algebra of "shielded tangles" with:

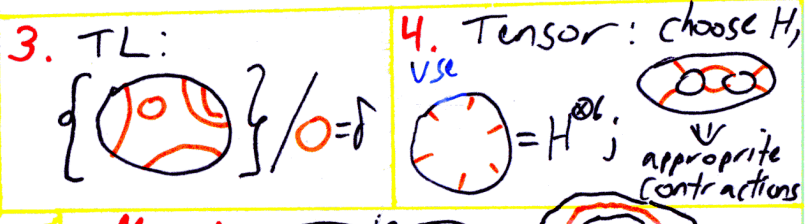


Definition. A planar algebra has spaces / operations indexed by  $\mathbb{Z}$  (with obvious compatibility between ops.)

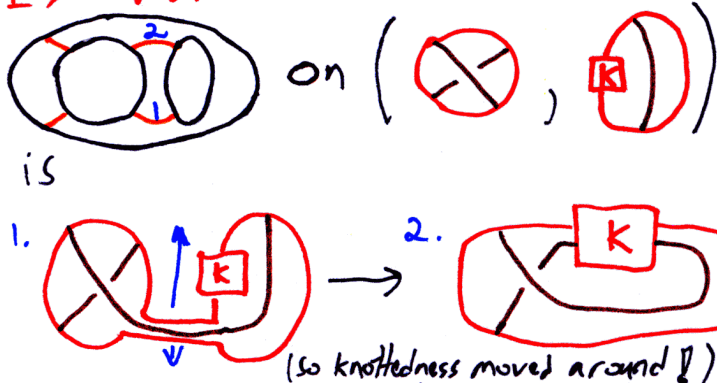
Examples. 1. My favourite - tangles:



2. "skeletons": Def. A skeletal planar algebra is "fibred" over S

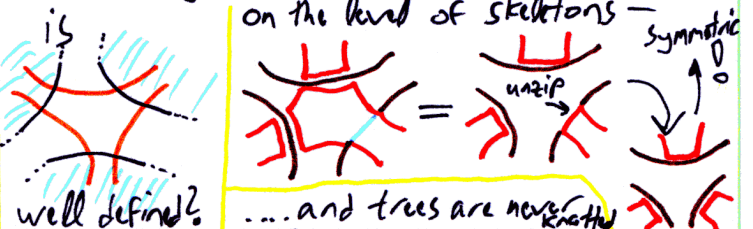


Example.



All make sense in higher genus! Not very planar

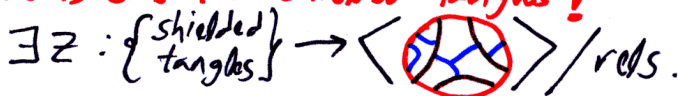
PROOF. key point:



Facts. 1. There is no planar-algebra-structure respecting universal finite type invariant



2. But there is one for shielded tangles!



3. This Z provides a Reidemeister context for the Kontsevich integral!

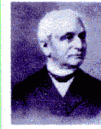
4. A cousin of Z is equivalent to the Drinfeld theory of associators.

Dream -

A similar story will be told for "virtual knots", and will provide a topological interpretation of a "universal quantum group". See ... / Talks / Hanoi-0708

1. Slides/blame/Some propaganda powerpoint are evil!  
 \* can you always sync with the speaker?  
 \* Don't you want to look back at pictures long gone?  
 2. Handouts are cool!

Everything's always in front of you, even when you go home.



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



Visit! katlas.org Edit!



Dror Bar-Natan: Talks: Hanoi-0708: **Following Lin: Expansions for Groups**



Riverside, April 2000      Kyoto, September 2001  
See Lin's "Power Series Expansions and Invariants of Links", 1993 Georgia International Topology Conference, AMS/IP Studies in Adv. Math. **2** (1997) 184-202.

- Vaughan's Hierarchy** (generalized, unauthorized)
- ☺ Computation
  - ☺ Formula
  - ☺ Proof
  - ☺ Theory
  - ☺ Dream

**The Magnus and Exponential Expansions**

$$Z_{1,2} : G_n = \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{free group} \\ \text{on} \\ X_1, \dots, X_n \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \hat{A}_n = \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{completed free} \\ \text{associative} \\ \text{algebra on} \\ x_1, \dots, x_n \end{array} \right)$$

by  $X_i \mapsto 1 + x_i$  or  $e^{x_i}$   
 $X_i^{-1} \mapsto 1 - x_i + x_i^2 - \dots$  or  $e^{-x_i}$ .

**What's "An Expansion"?** A filtration-preserving isomorphism  $Z : C(G) \rightarrow \mathcal{A}(G)$  where

$$I := \{ \sum a_i g_i : \sum a_i = 0 \} \subset \mathbb{C}G$$

$$\mathbb{C}G = I^0 \supset I^1 \supset I^2 \supset I^3 \supset \dots$$

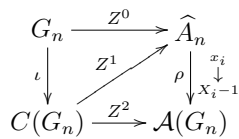
$$C(G) := \varprojlim_k \mathbb{C}G/I^k \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \mathbb{C}G/I^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}G/I \rightarrow 0$$

is filtered by  $F_m C(G) := \varprojlim_{k>m} I^m/I^k$  and  $\mathcal{A}(G) := \text{gr } C(G) = \hat{\oplus} I^m/I^{m+1}$ .  
 So all expansions are "equivalent"

**Think duals!**  $C(G)^*$  are "finite type invariants".  
 $\mathcal{A}(G)^*$  are "weight systems".  
 $Z$  is a "universal finite type invariant".

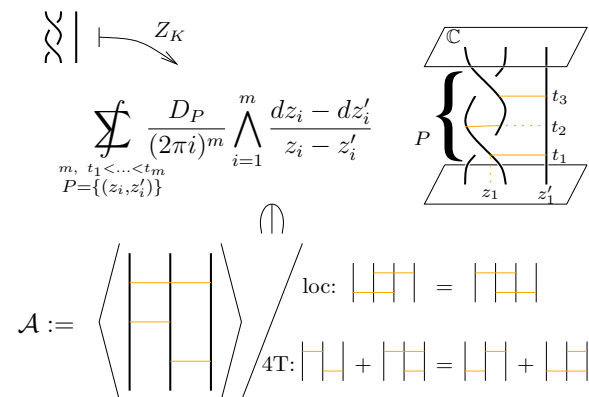
$Z_{1,2}$  are Expansions. With  $Z^0 = Z_1$  or  $Z^0 = Z_2$ :

1.  $\iota$  is automatic.
2.  $\rho$  is well-defined.
3.  $Z^0|_{I^m} \subset F_m \mathcal{A}_n$ .
4.  $Z^0$  descends to  $Z^1$ .
5. Define  $Z^2$ .
6.  $\rho$  is surjective.
7.  $\text{gr } Z^2$  is the identity.



8.  $Z^2$  is an isomorphism.
  9.  $\rho$  is an isomorphism.
- Everything generalizes, step 2 sometimes becomes tricky.

**The Kontsevich Integral for Braids**



M. Kontsevich

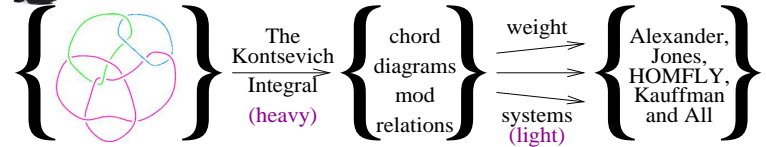
Which other groups / groupoids / categories have expansions?



**Dror's Dream / Obsession:**

"Unify" quantum groups – find one object that contains all.

**Example:** One invariant to rule them all:



Easy! Universal! A Morphism! Unique! An Isomorphism!

**What is a "Quantum Group"?** For now, a "deformation of the trivial" solution in  $\mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g})^{\otimes*}[[\hbar]]$  of the major equations:

$$(\Delta \otimes 1)\Delta = (1 \otimes \Delta)\Delta \quad R^{-1}\Delta R = \Delta^{op}$$

$$(\Delta \otimes 1)R = R^{23}R^{13} \quad (1 \otimes \Delta)R = R^{12}R^{13}$$

(as well as a few minor equations).

**Dror's Guess:** A unified object exists; we'll need:

1. Expansions as in Lin / universal finite type invariants.
2. Naturality / functoriality.
3. Knotted graphs, especially trivalent.
4. Associators following Drinfel'd.
5. The work of Etingof and Kazhdan on bialgebras.
6. Virtual braids / knots / knotted graphs.
7. Polyak (LMP 54) & Haviv (arXiv:math/0211031) on arrow diagrams.  
 (and when construction ends, we'll dump the scaffolding)

**Why care?**  
 Quantum groups computable invariants make!

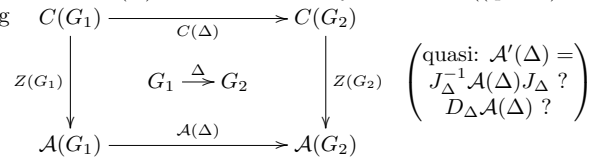


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**(Quasi?) Natural Expansions**

$G \mapsto C(G)$  and  $G \mapsto \mathcal{A}(G)$  are functors. Can you choose a ((quasi?) natural)  $Z$  satisfying



Perhaps just on a subcategory of **Groups**? Perhaps **Braids** with strands addition, deletion and doubling:

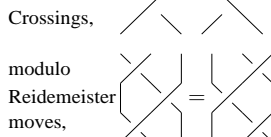


Note the relation:

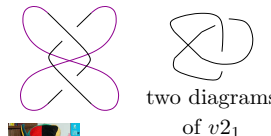
**Virtual Braids**

crossings are real, strands go virtual

**Definition.**

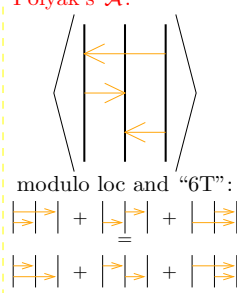


but the linkages between crossings are "virtual":



L. Kauffman

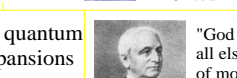
**Polyak's A.**



modulo loc and "6T":



M. Polyak



T. Ohtsuki

**Lie bialgebras.**

The  $\mathfrak{g}$  in a sum  $\mathfrak{g} \oplus \mathfrak{g}^*$  which in itself is a Lie algebra with subalgebras  $\mathfrak{g}$  and  $\mathfrak{g}^*$ , and in which the tautological metric is invariant.

**Why bother?**

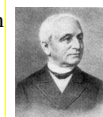
Their deformations are quantum groups, and their diagrammatic universalization is  $\vec{\mathcal{A}}$ .



Drinfel'd Etingof Kazhdan Haviv

**Question** Can you interpret quantum groups as (quasi?)-natural expansions on virtual braids?

**Dror's Guess:** No, but the effort will be worthwhile.



"God created the knots, all else in topology is the work of mortals"

Leopold Kronecker (modified)

# Dror's Dream Map of Quantum Groups $\subset$ Knot Theory

Drinfel'd, Etingof-Kazhdan

Prehistoric

## Hallucinations

about  
Khovanov



C A T E G O R I F I C A T I O N

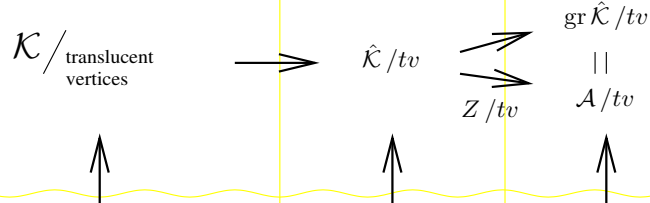


## Some harsh reality.

EK mix tangles and braids  
and algebras and Verma modules

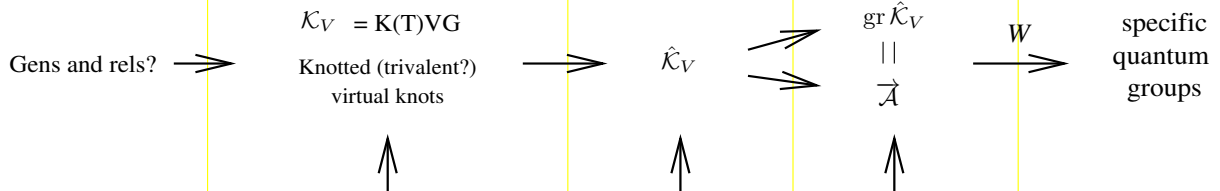
## Night Time Dreams

about  
Etingof - Kazhdan



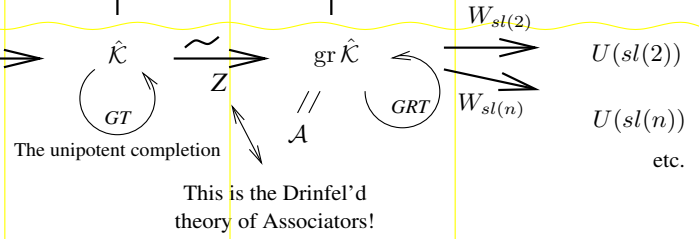
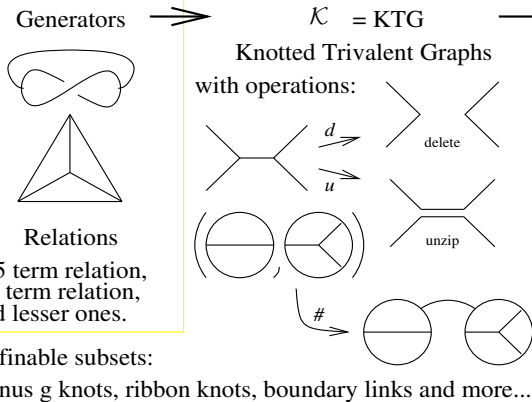
## Day Time Dreams

about Reshetikhin  
- Turaev & quasi  
triangular quasi  
Hopf algebras



## Reality

of associators, FT  
invariants and  
co-commutative  
quasi-Hopf  
algebras



## Why should we care?

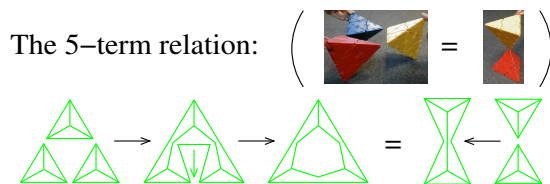
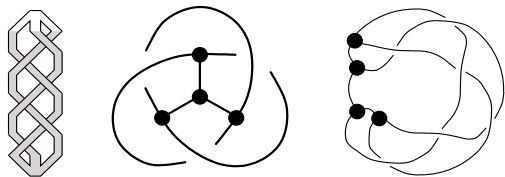
1. Usefulness!
2. Beauty!
3. Guidance!
4. Confidence!
5. Grothendieck-Teichmuller!



Fushimi-Inari

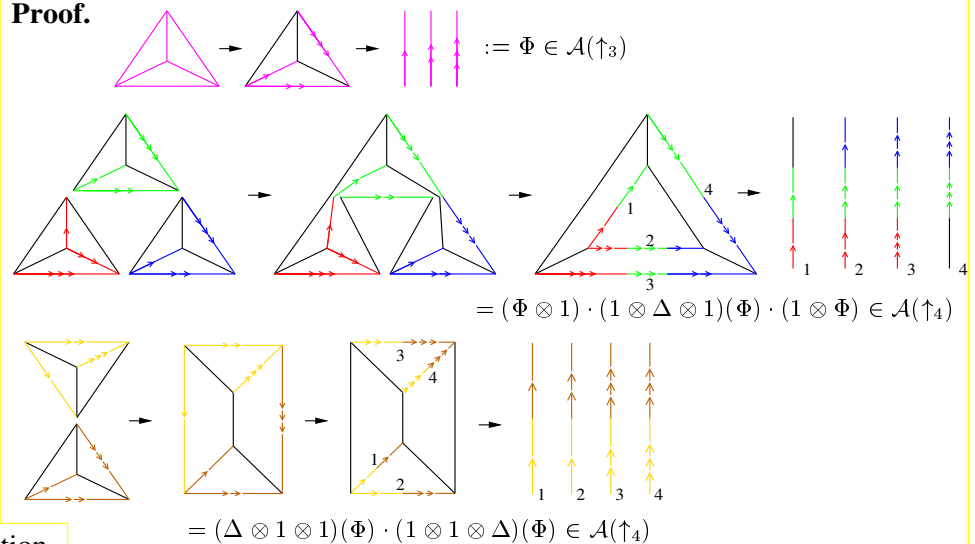
## A La Carte Drawings

Knotted Trivalent Graphs (KTG's):



**Claim.** With  $\Phi := Z(\Delta)$ , the above relation is equivalent to the Drinfel'd's pentagon equation.

## Proof.



Drinfel'd



Etingof



Kazhdan



J. Murakami



Ohtsuki



Kauffman



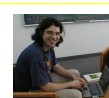
Goussarov



Polyak



Viro



D. Thurston



Haviv

# Math 1352 Algebraic Knot Theory - The Knizhnik-Zamolodchikov Connection

Theorem 1. The following is an invariant of braids in  $\mathbb{R}^2 \times \mathbb{C}$  (Fixed endpoints)

$$Z(B) = \oint \frac{Dp}{(2\pi i)^m} \prod_{i=1}^m \frac{dz_i - dz_i'}{z_i - z_i'} \text{ in } \mathcal{A}(1_n) := \langle t^{ij} : |k| \neq j \leq n \rangle / \begin{matrix} t^{ij} = -t^{ji} \\ [t^{ij}, t^{kl}] = 0 \\ [t^{ij}, t^{ik} + t^{jk}] = 0 \end{matrix}$$

$t_1, \dots, t_m$   
 $p = (z_1, z_1')$

Formal Connection to Curvature.

horizontal chords.  
= "Chord diagrams for braids".

Let  $\Omega \in \mathcal{L}'(M, A)$  with  $\text{deg } \Omega = 1$ .  
 $\gamma: [0, 1] \times I \rightarrow M$  induces  
 $\phi: \Delta^m = \{0 \leq t_1 \leq \dots \leq t_m \leq 1\} \rightarrow M^m$ .  
 Set  $\text{hol}_\gamma(\Omega) = P \circ \exp \int \Omega = \oint_{\Delta^m} \phi^* \Omega^m$   
 where  $\Omega^m := \pi_1^* \Omega \wedge \dots \wedge \pi_m^* \Omega$

Proof 2. Let  $\Gamma: I_s \times I_t \rightarrow M$ ,  $\Phi: I_s \times \Delta^m \rightarrow M^m$ .  
 By Stokes',  
 $\int_{\Delta^m} \Phi^* \Omega^m - \int_{\Delta^m_0} \Phi^* \Omega^m = \int_{I \times \Delta^m} d\Phi^* \Omega^m - \int_{I \times \Delta^m} \Phi^* \Omega^m =: A_m - B_m$

Now  
 $A_m = \sum_{k=1}^m (-1)^{k+1} \int_{I \times \Delta^m} \pi_1^* \Omega \wedge \dots \wedge \pi_k^* d\Omega \wedge \dots \wedge \pi_m^* \Omega$   
 and  
 $B_m = \int_{I \times [t_1=0]} \Phi^* \Omega^m \pm \int_{I \times [t_m=1]} \Phi^* \Omega^m + \sum_{k=1}^{m-1} (-1)^k \int_{I \times [t_k=t_{k+1}]} \Phi^* \Omega^m$   
 $= \sum_{k=1}^{m-1} (-1)^k \int_{I \times \Delta^{m-1}} \pi_1^* \Omega \wedge \dots \wedge \pi_k^* (d\Omega) \wedge \dots \wedge \pi_{m-1}^* \Omega$   
 and now  $\sum A_m = \sum B_m$  by telescopic summation &  $F_\Omega = 0$ .

Theorem 2. IF  $F_\Omega := d\Omega + \Omega \wedge \Omega = 0$ ,  
 then  $\text{hol}_\gamma(\Omega)$  is invariant under  
 end-point preserving homotopies of  $\gamma$ .

## The KZ connection.

$M = \mathbb{C}^n \setminus \{\text{diagonals}\}$ ,  $A = \mathcal{A}(1_n)$ ,  
 and  $\Omega = \sum_{i < j} t^{ij} w_{ij}$  where  $w_{ij} = \frac{dz_i - dz_j}{z_i - z_j} \stackrel{\text{locally}}{=} d \log(z_i - z_j)$   
 Compute  $F_\Omega = d\Omega + \Omega \wedge \Omega$ :  $dw_{ij} = 0$  so  $d\Omega = 0$ .

$\Omega \wedge \Omega = \sum_{\substack{i < j \\ k < l}} t^{ij} t^{kl} w_{ij} \wedge w_{kl} = A + B + C$  where  
 $A = C = 0$  as  $[t^{ij}, t^{kl}] = 0$  if  $\{|i, j, k, l|\} = 2$  or  $4$  and  
 $B = \sum_{\alpha < \beta < \gamma} [t^{\alpha\beta}, t^{\beta\gamma}] w_{\alpha\beta} \wedge w_{\beta\gamma} + \text{cyclic perms}$   
 $= \sum_{\alpha < \beta < \gamma} \gamma^{\alpha\beta\gamma} (w_{\alpha\beta} \wedge w_{\beta\gamma} + \text{cyc perms}) = 0$  by Arnold's identity

Proof of 1  
 Simply take in  
 theorem 2,  
 $\gamma =$  the braid  
 and  
 $\Omega =$  the KZ  
 connection.

Note: by 4T,  
 $[t^{\alpha\beta}, t^{\beta\gamma}] = \gamma^{\alpha\beta\gamma}$   
 $\gamma^{\alpha\beta\gamma} = \text{diagram}$

Dror Bar-Natan, Feb 13, 2007



# Local Differentials and Matrix Factorizations



Dror Bar-Natan at UIUC, March 11, 2004, <http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Talks/UIUC-050311/>

### Quantum algebra:

where

Claim. If  $ba=qab$  then

$$(n)_q := 1 + q + \dots + q^{n-1},$$

$$(n)!_q := (1)_q(2)_q \dots (n)_q,$$

$$(a + b)^n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k}_q a^k b^{n-k}$$

$$\binom{n}{k}_q := \frac{(n)!_q}{(k)!_q (n-k)!_q}.$$

### Conjecture:

(I. Frenkel, though he may disown this version)

1. Every object in mathematics is the Euler characteristic of a complex.
2. Every operation in mathematics lifts to an operation between complexes.
3. Every identity in mathematics is true up to homotopy at complex-level.



I. Frenkel

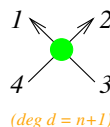
### Local state spaces:

$$V = \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \end{array} \right\rangle$$

$$V^{\otimes(4 \times 5)} = \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \end{array} ; \dots \right\rangle$$

Likewise, set  $Q=d$  with:

$$\ln[4]= Q := \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & v_1 & v_2 \\ 0 & 0 & u_2 & -u_1 \\ u_1 & v_2 & 0 & 0 \\ u_2 & -v_1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix};$$



(deg d = n+1)

$$\{v_1, v_2\} = \{x_1 + x_2 - x_3 - x_4, x_1 x_2 - x_3 x_4\};$$

$\ln[6]= g[s_-, p_-] :=$

$$s^{n+1} + (n+1) \sum_{i=1}^{(n+1)/2} \frac{(-1)^i}{i} \text{Binomial}[n-i, i-1] s^{n+1-2i} p^i;$$

$g[x+y, x y] // \text{Expand}$

$$\text{Out}[6]= x^3 + y^3$$

$\ln[7]= \{u_1, u_2\} =$

$$\text{Cancel} \left[ \left\{ \frac{g[x_1 + x_2, x_1 x_2] - g[x_3 + x_4, x_1 x_2]}{v_1}, \frac{g[x_3 + x_4, x_1 x_2] - g[x_3 + x_4, x_3 x_4]}{v_2} \right\} \right]$$

$$\text{Out}[7]= \{x_1^2 - x_1 x_2 + x_2^2 + x_1 x_3 + x_2 x_3 + x_3^2 + x_1 x_4 + x_2 x_4 + 2 x_3 x_4 + x_4^2, -3(x_3 + x_4)\}$$

$\ln[8]= \omega = u_1 v_1 + u_2 v_2 // \text{Expand}$

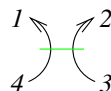
$$\text{Out}[8]= x_1^3 + x_2^3 - x_3^3 - x_4^3$$

$\ln[9]= \text{Simplify}[Q \cdot Q == \omega \text{IdentityMatrix}[4]]$

$$\text{Out}[9]= \text{True}$$

$\ln[10]=$

$$\text{Example: Set } P=d \left| \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \text{---} \end{array} \right\} P = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & x_1 - x_4 & x_2 - x_3 \\ 0 & 0 & \pi_{2,3} & -\pi_{1,4} \\ \pi_{1,4} & x_2 - x_3 & 0 & 0 \\ \pi_{2,3} & x_4 - x_1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix};$$



$\ln[11]=$

$$\text{Simplify}[P \cdot P == \omega \text{IdentityMatrix}[4]]$$

$$\text{Out}[11]= \text{True}$$

**Theorem:** (Kh-Ro) Taking homology and then the graded Euler characteristics, we get the [MOY] relations:

$$\uparrow = \uparrow \quad \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} = [2] \quad \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} = [n-1]$$

$$\text{---} \text{---} \text{---} = \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} + [n-2]$$

$$\text{---} \text{---} \text{---} + \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} = \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} + \text{---} \text{---} \text{---}$$

[MOY] := Murakami, Ohtsuki, Yamada, Enseignement Math. 44 (1998)

$$[k] := \frac{q^k - q^{-k}}{q - q^{-1}}$$

### Local differentials:

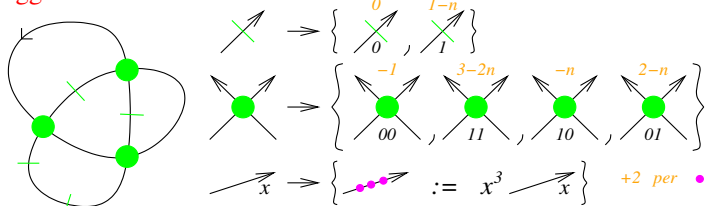
$$d \left( \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline & \\ \hline & \\ \hline \end{array} \right) = \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline d & \\ \hline & \\ \hline \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline & d \\ \hline & \\ \hline \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline & \\ \hline d & \\ \hline & \\ \hline \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline & \\ \hline & d \\ \hline & \\ \hline \end{array} \end{array}$$

where

$$d^2 \left( \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \text{---} \text{---} \\ \hline \text{---} \text{---} \\ \hline \end{array} \right) = 0 \text{ or } d^2 \left( \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \text{---} \text{---} \\ \hline \text{---} \text{---} \\ \hline \end{array} \right) = \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \text{---} \text{---} \\ \hline \text{---} \text{---} \\ \hline \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \text{---} \text{---} \\ \hline \text{---} \text{---} \\ \hline \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \text{---} \text{---} \\ \hline \text{---} \text{---} \\ \hline \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \text{---} \text{---} \\ \hline \text{---} \text{---} \\ \hline \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \text{---} \text{---} \\ \hline \text{---} \text{---} \\ \hline \end{array} \end{array}$$

### Tagged doodles:

(degrees in orange)



$$d \left| \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array} \right| := \left| \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array} \right| - \left| \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array} \right| = (x-y) \left| \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array} \right| \quad d \left| \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array} \right| := \pi \left| \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array} \right| x$$

$$\ln[1]= n = 2; \pi_{i_-, j_-} := \text{Cancel} \left[ \frac{x_i^{n+1} - x_j^{n+1}}{x_i - x_j} \right]; \pi_{1,2}$$

$$\text{Out}[1]= x_1^2 + x_1 x_2 + x_2^2$$

$$\ln[2]= L = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & x_1 - x_2 \\ \pi_{1,2} & 0 \end{pmatrix};$$

$\text{Expand}[L \cdot L] // \text{MatrixForm}$

(deg d = n+1)

$$\text{Out}[3]/\text{MatrixForm} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1^3 - x_2^3 & 0 \\ 0 & x_1^3 - x_2^3 \end{pmatrix}$$

### Matrix factorizations:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} M^0 & \xrightarrow{A} & M^1 & \xrightarrow{B} & M^0 \\ U^0 \downarrow V^0 & & U^1 \downarrow V^1 & & U^0 \downarrow V^0 \\ N^0 & \xrightarrow{A'} & N^1 & \xrightarrow{B'} & N^0 \end{array}$$

A category, with "complexes", morphisms, homotopies, direct sums and tensor products.

D. Eisenbud



See Khovanov and Rozansky, arXiv:math.QA/0401268





# From Stonehenge to Witten Skipping all the Details

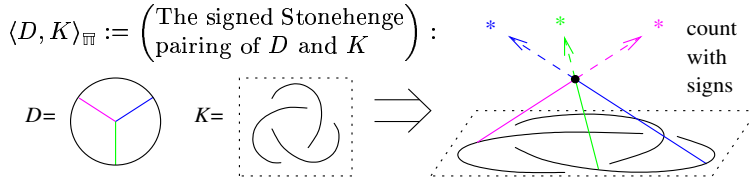
Oporto Meeting on Geometry, Topology and Physics, July 2004

Dror Bar-Natan, University of Toronto



It is well known that when the Sun rises on midsummer's morning over the "Heel Stone" at Stonehenge, its first rays shine right through the open arms of the horseshoe arrangement. Thus astrological lineups, one of the pillars of modern thought, are much older than the famed Gaussian linking number of two knots.

Recall that the latter is itself an astrological construct: one of the standard ways to compute the Gaussian linking number is to place the two knots in space and then count (with signs) the number of shade points cast on one of the knots by the other knot, with the only lighting coming from some fixed distant star.

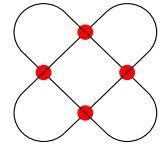


The Gaussian linking number

$$lk(\bigcirc) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\text{vertical chopsticks}} (\text{signs})$$



Carl Friedrich Gauss



$lk=2$

Dylan Thurston

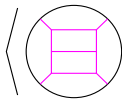


Thus we consider the generating function of all stellar coincidences:

$$Z(K) := \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{\text{3-valent } D} \frac{1}{2^e c! \binom{N}{e}} \langle D, K \rangle_{\overline{\mathbb{R}}} D \cdot \left( \text{framing-dependent counter-term} \right) \in \mathcal{A}(\odot)$$

$N$  := # of stars  
 $c$  := # of chopsticks  
 $e$  := # of edges of  $D$

$\mathcal{A}(\odot)$



oriented vertices AS:  $\text{Y} + \text{Y} = 0$  & more relations

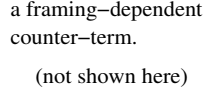
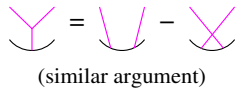
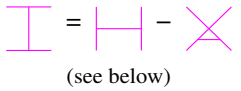
**Theorem.** Modulo Relations,  $Z(K)$  is a knot invariant!

When deforming, catastrophes occur when:

A plane moves over an intersection point –  
 Solution: Impose IHX,

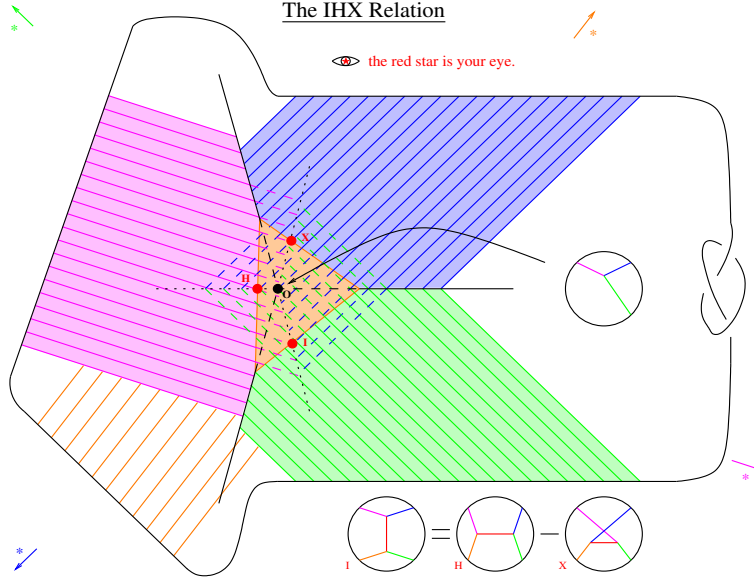
An intersection line cuts through the knot –  
 Solution: Impose STU,

The Gauss curve slides over a star –  
 Solution: Multiply by a framing-dependent counter-term.



### The IHX Relation

the red star is your eye.



$V$ : vector space  
 $dV$ : Lebesgue's measure on  $V$ .  
 $Q$ : A quadratic form on  $V$ ;  
 $Q(V) = \langle L^2 V, V \rangle$  where  
 $L: V \rightarrow V^*$  is linear  
**Compute**  $I = \int_V dV e^{\pm Q + P}$   
 $= \int_V \frac{1}{m!} dV P^m e^{Q/2}$   
 $\sim \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{m!} P^m \langle \partial_V \rangle e^{-\frac{1}{2} Q^{-1}(V)}$   
 $= \sum_{m, p=0}^{\infty} \frac{\epsilon^{11} \dots}{2^m m! n!} P^m \langle \partial \rangle (Q^{-1})^n \Big|_{V=0}$

In our case,  
 $\star Q$  is  $d$ , so  $Q^{-1}$  is an integral operator.  
 $\star P$  is  $\frac{2}{3} A^3 A^2 A$   
 $\star H$  is the homonomy, itself a sum of integrals along the knot  $K$ ,  
  
 & when the dust settles, we get  $Z(K)$ !

The Fourier Transform:  
 $(F: V \rightarrow C) \Rightarrow (F: V^* \rightarrow C)$   
 via  $F(V) = \int_V F(V) e^{-i \langle V, V \rangle} dV$ .  
 Simple Facts:  
 1.  $F(0) = \int_V F(V) dV$ .  
 2.  $\frac{\partial}{\partial V_i} F \sim \widehat{V_i} F$ .  
 3.  $(e^{Q/2}) \sim e^{-Q^{-1}/2}$   
 where  $Q^{-1}(V) = \langle V, L^{-1} V \rangle$   
 (That's the heart of the Fourier Inversion Formula).

So  $\int_V H(V) e^{\pm Q + P} dV \sim H(\partial) e^{P/2} e^{-Q^{-1}(V)/2} \Big|_{V=0}$   
 is  $\sum \dots$   
 $= \sum c(D) \left( \text{products of } Q^{-1}\text{'s, } P\text{'s and one } H \right)$   
  
 Richard Feynman

Differentiation and Pairings:  
 $\partial_x^3 \partial_y^2 x^3 y^2 = 3! 2! j$  indeed,  
  
 $(\lambda_{ijk} \partial_i \partial_j \partial_k)^2 (\lambda^{lmn} \psi_l \psi_m \psi_n)^3$  is  
 (2 possible)

"God created the knots, all else in topology is the work of man."



Leopold Kronecker (modified)

It all is perturbative Chern-Simons-Witten theory:

$$\int_{\mathfrak{g}\text{-connections}} \mathcal{D}A \text{hol}_K(A) \exp \left[ \frac{ik}{4\pi} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \text{tr} \left( A \wedge dA + \frac{2}{3} A \wedge A \wedge A \right) \right]$$

$$\rightarrow \sum_{D: \text{Feynman diagram}} W_{\mathfrak{g}}(D) \int \mathcal{E}(D) \rightarrow \sum_{D: \text{Feynman diagram}} D \int \mathcal{E}(D)$$



Shiing-shen Chern



James H Simons

This handout is at <http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Talks/Oporto-0407>

More at <http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Talks/Oporto-0407/>



# From Stonehenge to Witten – Some Further Details

Oporto Meeting on Geometry, Topology and Physics, July 2004

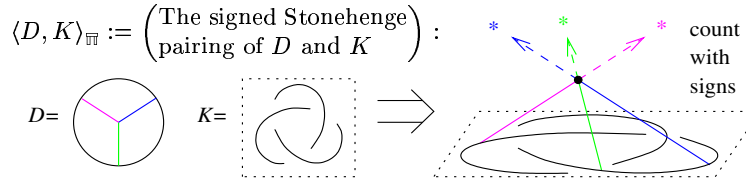
Dror Bar-Natan, University of Toronto



Witten

We the generating function of all stellar coincidences:

$$Z(K) := \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{\substack{D \\ 3\text{-valent}}} \frac{1}{2^c c! \binom{N}{e}} \langle D, K \rangle_{\mathbb{R}} D \cdot \left( \begin{array}{l} \text{framing-} \\ \text{dependent} \\ \text{counter-term} \end{array} \right) \in \mathcal{A}(\odot)$$



**Theorem.** Modulo Relations,  $Z(K)$  is a knot invariant!

Dylan Thurston

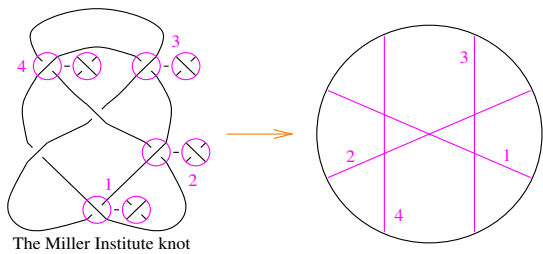


$N := \# \text{ of stars}$        $\mathcal{A}(\odot) := \text{Span} \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ | \\ \text{---} \end{array} \right\rangle / \text{oriented vertices AS: } \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ | \\ \text{---} \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ | \\ \text{---} \end{array} = 0$   
 $c := \# \text{ of chopsticks}$   
 $e := \# \text{ of edges of } D$  & more relations

**When deforming, catastrophes occur when:**

- A plane moves over an intersection point – Solution: Impose IHX,  $I = H - X$
- An intersection line cuts through the knot – Solution: Impose STU,  $Y = U - X$
- The Gauss curve slides over a star – Solution: Multiply by a framing-dependent counter-term.

$$\int_{\mathfrak{g}\text{-connections}} \mathcal{D}A \text{ hol}_K(A) \exp \left[ \frac{ik}{4\pi} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \text{tr} \left( A \wedge dA + \frac{2}{3} A \wedge A \wedge A \right) \right] \rightarrow \sum_{D: \text{Feynman diagram}} W_{\mathfrak{g}}(D) \int \mathcal{E}(D) \rightarrow \sum_{D: \text{Feynman diagram}} D \int \mathcal{E}(D)$$



**Definition.**  $V$  is finite type (Vassiliev, Goussarov) if it vanishes on sufficiently large alternations as on the right

**Theorem.** All knot polynomials (Conway, Jones, etc.) are of finite type.

**Conjecture.** (Taylor's theorem) Finite type invariants separate knots.

**Theorem.**  $Z(K)$  is a universal finite type invariant! (sketch: to dance in many parties, you need many feet).

Goussarov



Vassiliev



Related to Lie algebras

$$\begin{array}{c} x \quad y \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \text{---} \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ y \quad x \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} x \quad y \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \text{---} \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ x \quad y \end{array} - \begin{array}{c} x \quad y \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \text{---} \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ y \quad x \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} x \quad y \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \text{---} \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ z \quad z \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} x \quad y \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \text{---} \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ z \quad z \end{array} - \begin{array}{c} x \quad y \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \text{---} \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ z \quad z \end{array}$$

$$[x, y] = xy - yx \quad [[x, y], z] = [x, [y, z]] - [y, [x, z]]$$



Sophus Lie

More precisely, let  $\mathfrak{g} = \langle X_a \rangle$  be a Lie algebra with an orthonormal basis, and let  $R = \langle v_\alpha \rangle$  be a representation. Set

$$f_{abc} := \langle [a, b], c \rangle \quad X_a v_\beta = \sum_{\gamma} r_{a\gamma}^\beta v_\gamma$$

and then

$$W_{\mathfrak{g}, R} : \begin{array}{c} \gamma \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \text{---} \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \alpha \end{array} \begin{array}{c} a \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \text{---} \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \beta \end{array} \begin{array}{c} b \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \text{---} \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \alpha \end{array} \begin{array}{c} c \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \text{---} \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \alpha \end{array} \rightarrow \sum_{abc\alpha\beta\gamma} f_{abc} r_{a\gamma}^\beta r_{b\alpha}^\gamma r_{c\beta}^\alpha$$

Planar algebra and the Yang-Baxter equation

$$\begin{array}{c} a \quad b \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \text{---} \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ c \quad d \end{array} \begin{array}{c} a \quad b \quad c \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \quad \diagup \\ \text{---} \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \quad \diagdown \\ d \quad e \quad f \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} a \quad b \quad c \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \quad \diagup \\ \text{---} \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \quad \diagdown \\ d \quad e \quad f \end{array}$$

$$R_{cd}^{ab} \downarrow \quad R_{hi}^{ab} R_{jf}^{ic} R_{de}^{hj} = R_{di}^{ah} R_{hj}^{bc} R_{ef}^{ij}$$



Yang



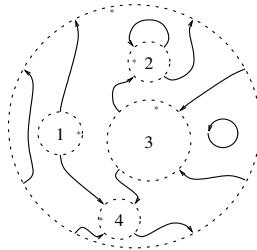
Baxter

$W_{\mathfrak{g}, R} \circ Z$  is often interesting:

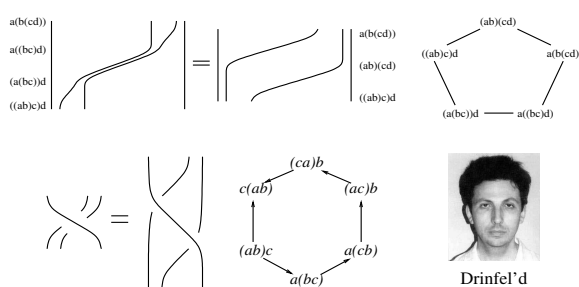
$\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{sl}(2)$   $\rightarrow$  The Jones polynomial

$\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{sl}(N)$   $\rightarrow$  The HOMFLYPT polynomial

$\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{so}(N)$   $\rightarrow$  The Kauffman polynomial



Parenthesized tangles, the pentagon and hexagon



Reshetikhin



Turaev

Kauffman's bracket and the Jones polynomial

claim  $\hat{J}(\mathcal{D}) = \hat{J}(\mathcal{D})()$

$\langle X \rangle = \langle Y \rangle - q \langle Z \rangle$  (0-smoothing, 1-smoothing)

$\langle O^k \rangle = (q + q^{-1})^k$

$\hat{J}(L) = (-1)^n q^{n+2m} \langle L \rangle$

$(n_+, n_-)$  count  $(\nearrow, \searrow)$

Indeed,  $\langle \mathcal{D} \rangle = \langle \mathcal{D} \rangle - q \langle \mathcal{D} \rangle - 9 \langle \mathcal{D} \rangle + 9^2 \langle \mathcal{D} \rangle = -9 \langle \mathcal{D} \rangle$

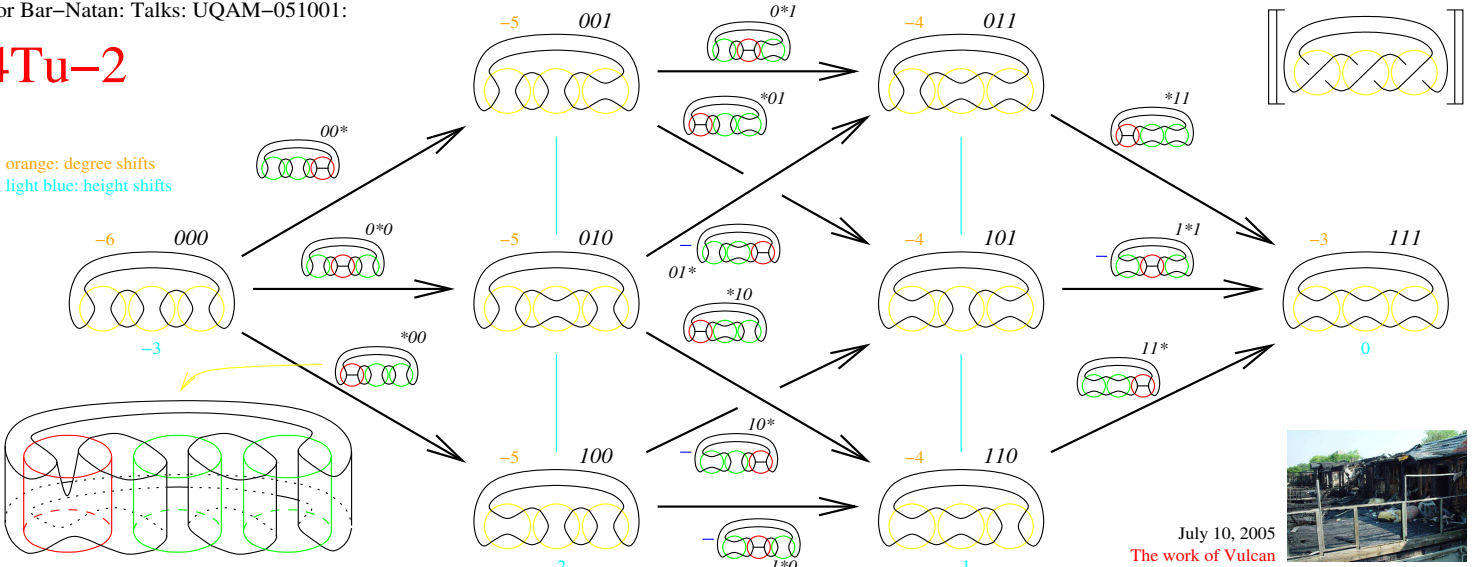
"God created the knots, all else in topology is the work of man."

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# 4Tu-2

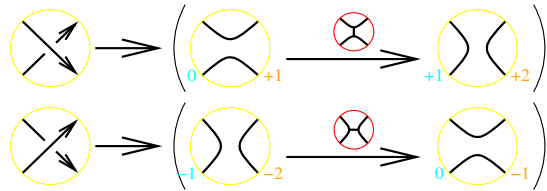
orange: degree shifts  
light blue: height shifts



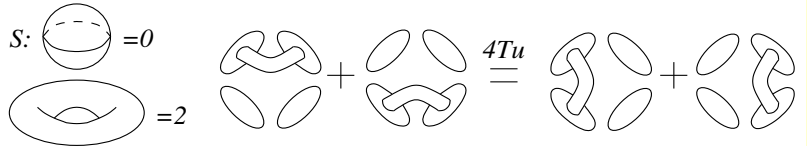
July 10, 2005  
The work of Vulcan



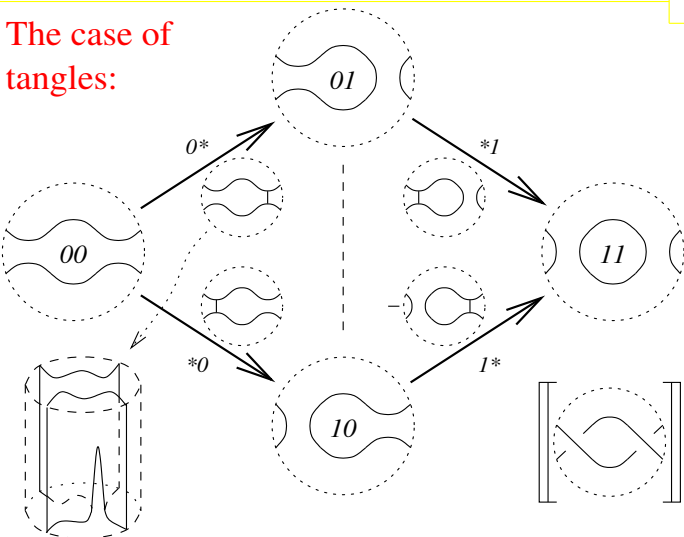
## General Crossings



Where does it live? In  $Kom(Mat(\langle Cob \rangle / \{S, T, 4Tu\}) / \text{homotopy})$   
 Kom: Complexes Mat: Matrices Cob: Cobordisms  $\langle \dots \rangle$ : Formal lin. comb.



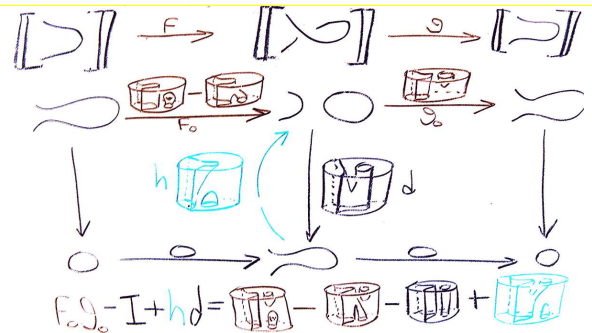
## The case of tangles:



## Invariant!



Kurt Reidemeister



The Reduction Lemma. If  $\phi$  is an isomorphism then the complex

$$[C] \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \end{pmatrix}} \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ D \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} \phi & \delta \\ \gamma & \epsilon \end{pmatrix}} \begin{bmatrix} b_2 \\ E \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{(\mu \ \nu)} [F]$$

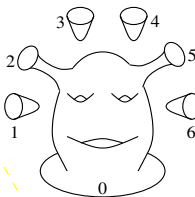
is isomorphic to the (direct sum) complex

$$[C] \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \beta \end{pmatrix}} \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ D \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} \phi & 0 \\ 0 & \epsilon - \gamma\phi^{-1}\delta \end{pmatrix}} \begin{bmatrix} b_2 \\ E \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{(0 \ \nu)} [F]$$

## The work of Naot.

$\langle \text{surfaces} \rangle / 4Tu$  is freely generated by Shrek surfaces

A Shrek surface with 7 boundaries (one distinguished), 3 handles and 2 tubes



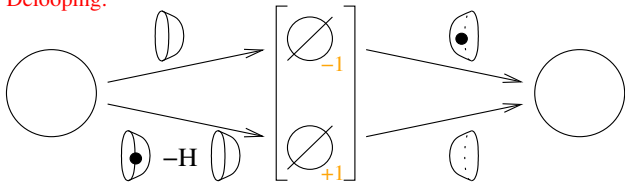
Gad Naot



שרעק

Let  $\bullet$  denote a tube to the distinguished component (the curtain), and let H denote a handle on the curtain. Then

### Delooping:



... so the invariant is valued in complexes over a category with just one object and morphisms in  $\mathbb{Z}[H]$ ; all is graded and  $\text{deg}H = -2$ .

## The work of Green.

standard data:

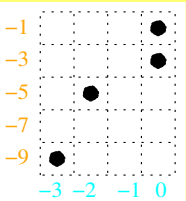


Jeremy Green

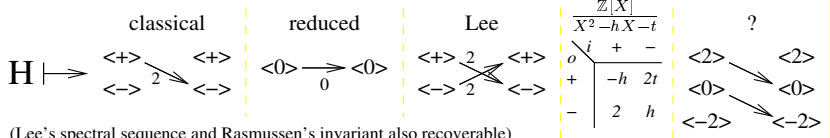
The universal invariant of the left-handed trefoil is

$$-3 \mid \begin{array}{c} \square \\ \text{H} \end{array} \mid -2 \mid -6 \mid -1 \mid 0 \mid -2$$

(and the invariant of the 48 crossing  $T(8,7)$  is computable in minutes...)



## Some functors.

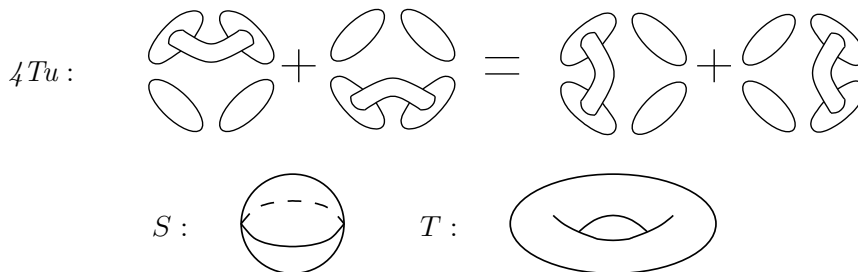


(Lee's spectral sequence and Rasmussen's invariant also recoverable)

<http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Talks/UQAM-051001/>



DROR BAR-NATAN



**What is it good for?**

- (1) Cutting necks:



- (2) Recovers the good old Khovanov theory,

$$\mathcal{F}(\text{neck}) = \epsilon : \begin{cases} 1 \mapsto v_+ \end{cases} \qquad \mathcal{F}(\text{cup}) = \eta : \begin{cases} v_+ \mapsto 0 \\ v_- \mapsto 1 \end{cases}$$

$$\mathcal{F}(\text{cross}) = \Delta : \begin{cases} v_+ \mapsto v_+ \otimes v_- + v_- \otimes v_+ \\ v_- \mapsto v_- \otimes v_- \end{cases} \qquad \mathcal{F}(\text{cap}) = m : \begin{cases} v_+ \otimes v_- \mapsto v_- & v_+ \otimes v_+ \mapsto v_+ \\ v_- \otimes v_+ \mapsto v_- & v_- \otimes v_- \mapsto 0. \end{cases}$$

- (3) Trivially extends to tangles.
- (4) Well suited to prove invariance for cobordisms.
- (5) Recovers Lee’s theory,

$$\Delta : \begin{cases} v_+ \mapsto v_+ \otimes v_- + v_- \otimes v_+ \\ v_- \mapsto v_- \otimes v_- + v_+ \otimes v_+ \end{cases} \qquad m : \begin{cases} v_+ \otimes v_- \mapsto v_- & v_+ \otimes v_+ \mapsto v_+ \\ v_- \otimes v_+ \mapsto v_- & v_- \otimes v_- \mapsto v_+. \end{cases}$$

- (6) Leads to a new theory (over  $\mathbb{Z}/2$  and with  $\deg h = -2$ ),

$$\Delta : \begin{cases} v_+ \mapsto v_+ \otimes v_- + v_- \otimes v_+ + hv_+ \otimes v_+ \\ v_- \mapsto v_- \otimes v_- \end{cases} \qquad m : \begin{cases} v_+ \otimes v_- \mapsto v_- & v_+ \otimes v_+ \mapsto v_+ \\ v_- \otimes v_+ \mapsto v_- & v_- \otimes v_- \mapsto hv_- \end{cases}$$

- (7) Trivially extends to knots on surfaces.
- (8) Non-trivially recovers Khovanov’s  $c$ ,

$$\epsilon : \begin{cases} 1 \mapsto v_+ \end{cases} \qquad \eta : \begin{cases} v_+ \mapsto 0 \\ v_- \mapsto -c \end{cases}$$

$$\Delta : \begin{cases} v_+ \mapsto v_+ \otimes v_- + v_- \otimes v_+ + cv_- \otimes v_- \\ v_- \mapsto v_- \otimes v_- \end{cases} \qquad m : \begin{cases} v_+ \otimes v_- \mapsto v_- & v_+ \otimes v_+ \mapsto v_+ \\ v_- \otimes v_+ \mapsto v_- & v_- \otimes v_- \mapsto 0. \end{cases}$$

(Added June 29, 2004: what appeared to work didn’t quite. The recovery of Khovanov’s  $c$  remains open).

“God created the knots, all else in topology is the work of man.”

Leopold Kronecker (modified)

URL: <http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/papers/Cobordism> (and see the ‘‘GWU’’ handout)

Date: May 30, 2004.

The Kauffman Bracket:  $\langle \emptyset \rangle = 1$ ;  $\langle \bigcirc L \rangle = (q + q^{-1})\langle L \rangle$ ;  $\langle \times \rangle = \langle \underset{0\text{-smoothing}}{\times} \rangle - q \langle \underset{1\text{-smoothing}}{\times} \rangle$ .

The Jones Polynomial:  $\hat{J}(L) = (-1)^{n_-} q^{n_+ - 2n_-} \langle L \rangle$ , where  $(n_+, n_-)$  count  $(\times, \times)$  crossings.

Khovanov's construction:  $[[L]]$  — a chain complex of graded  $\mathbb{Z}$ -modules;

$$[[\emptyset]] = 0 \rightarrow \underset{\text{height } 0}{\mathbb{Z}} \rightarrow 0; \quad [[\bigcirc L]] = V \otimes [[L]]; \quad [[\times]] = \text{Flatten} \left( 0 \rightarrow \underset{\text{height } 0}{[[\times]]} \rightarrow \underset{\text{height } 1}{[[\times]]\{1\}} \rightarrow 0 \right);$$

$$\mathcal{H}(L) = \mathcal{H}(\mathcal{C}(L) = [[L]][-n_-]\{n_+ - 2n_-\})$$

$$V = \text{span}\langle v_+, v_- \rangle; \quad \deg v_{\pm} = \pm 1; \quad q\dim V = q + q^{-1} \quad \text{with} \quad q\dim \mathcal{O} := \sum_m q^m \dim \mathcal{O}_m;$$

$$\mathcal{O}\{l\}_m := \mathcal{O}_{m-l} \quad \text{so} \quad q\dim \mathcal{O}\{l\} = q^l q\dim \mathcal{O}; \quad \cdot[s]: \text{height shift by } s;$$

$$\left( \bigcirc \bigcirc \xrightarrow{\quad} \bigcirc \bigcirc \right) \rightarrow (V \otimes V \xrightarrow{m} V)$$

$$\left( \bigcirc \bigcirc \xrightarrow{\quad} \bigcirc \bigcirc \right) \rightarrow (V \xrightarrow{\Delta} V \otimes V)$$

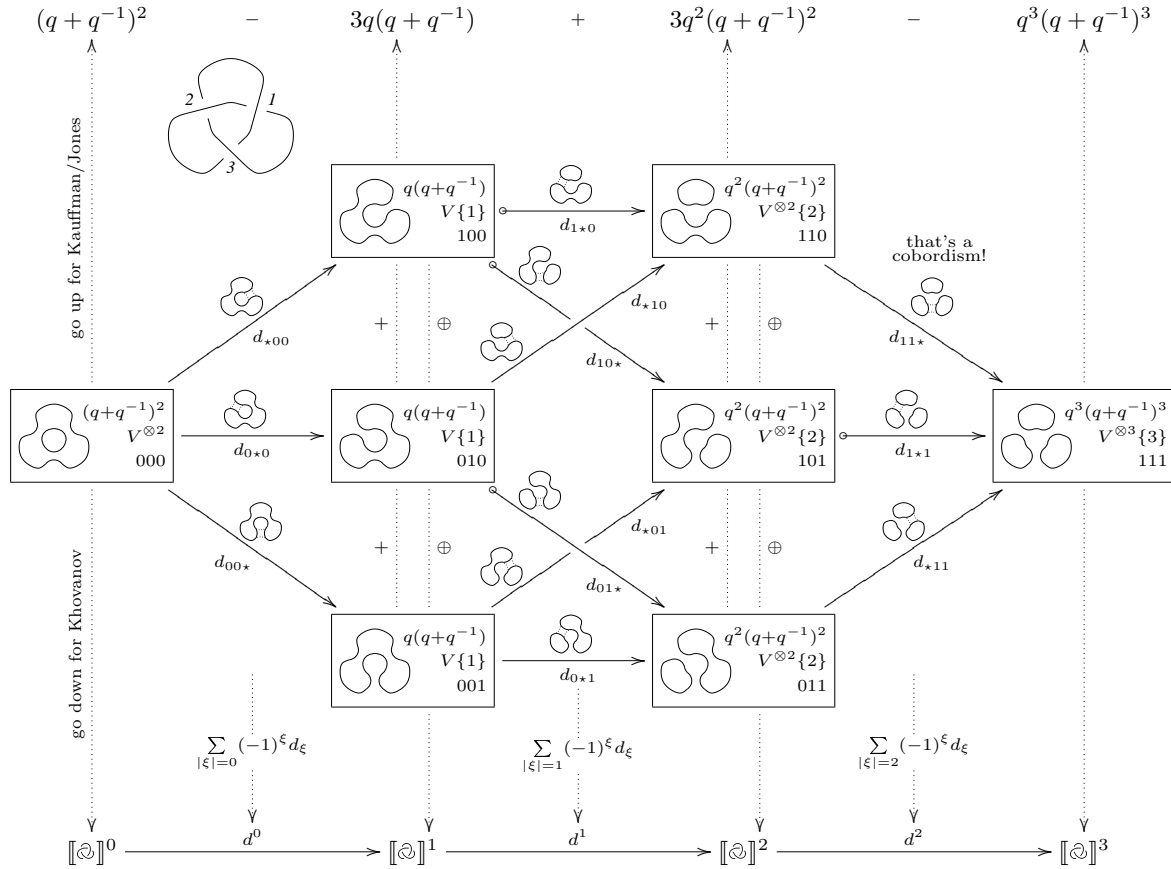
$$m: \begin{cases} v_+ \otimes v_- \mapsto v_- & v_+ \otimes v_+ \mapsto v_+ \\ v_- \otimes v_+ \mapsto v_- & v_- \otimes v_- \mapsto 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\Delta: \begin{cases} v_+ \mapsto v_+ \otimes v_- + v_- \otimes v_+ \\ v_- \mapsto v_- \otimes v_- \end{cases}$$

That's a Frobenius Algebra! And a (1+1)-dimensional TQFT!

Example:

$$\rho \quad q^{-2} + 1 + q^2 - q^6 \xrightarrow[\text{(with } (n_+, n_-) = (3, 0))]{\cdot (-1)^{n_-} q^{n_+ - 2n_-}} q + q^3 + q^5 - q^9.$$



$$\text{(here } (-1)^\xi := (-1)^{\sum_{i < j} \xi_i} \text{ if } \xi_j = \star) \quad = \quad [[\otimes]] \xrightarrow[\text{(with } (n_+, n_-) = (3, 0))]{\cdot [-n_-]\{n_+ - 2n_-\}} \mathcal{C}(\otimes).$$

**Theorem 1.** The graded Euler characteristic of  $\mathcal{C}(L)$  is  $\hat{J}(L)$ .

**Theorem 2.** The homology  $\mathcal{H}(L)$  is a link invariant and thus so is  $Kh_{\mathbb{F}}(L) := \sum_r t^r q\dim \mathcal{H}_{\mathbb{F}}^r(\mathcal{C}(L))$  over any field  $\mathbb{F}$ .

**Theorem 3.**  $\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{C}(L))$  is strictly stronger than  $\hat{J}(L)$ :  $\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{C}(\bar{5}_1)) \neq \mathcal{H}(\mathcal{C}(10_{132}))$  whereas  $\hat{J}(\bar{5}_1) = \hat{J}(10_{132})$ .

**Conjecture 1.**  $Kh_{\mathbb{Q}}(L) = q^{s-1} (1 + q^2 + (1 + tq^4)Kh')$  and  $Kh_{\mathbb{F}_2}(L) = q^{s-1} (1 + q^2) (1 + (1 + tq^2)Kh')$  for even  $s = s(L)$  and non-negative-coefficients laurent polynomial  $Kh' = Kh'(L)$ .

**Conjecture 2.** For alternating knots  $s$  is the signature and  $Kh'$  depends only on  $tq^2$ .

**References.** Khovanov's arXiv:math.QA/9908171 and arXiv:math.QA/0103190 and DBN's

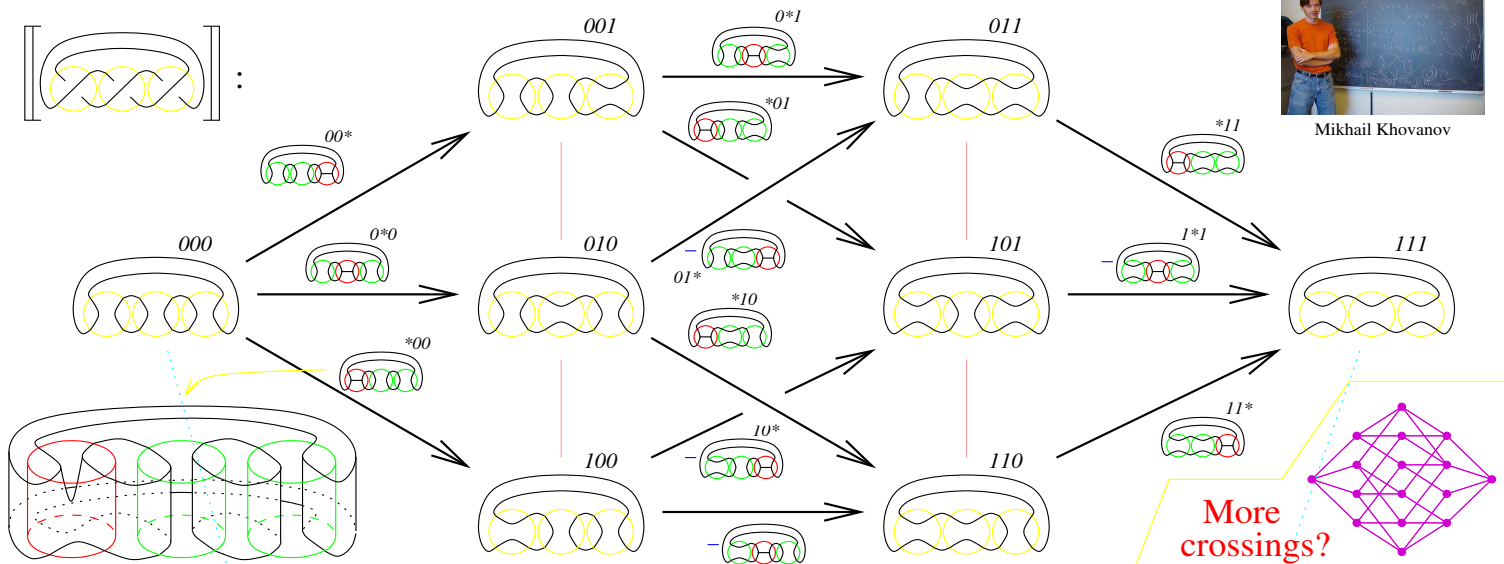
<http://www.ma.huji.ac.il/~drorbn/papers/Categorification/>.

More at <http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Talks/UW0-040213/>

# Khovanov Homology



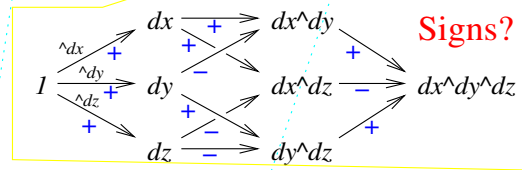
Mikhail Khovanov



**What is it?** A cube for each knot/link projection;

Vertices: All fillings of with or with .

Edges: All fillings of  $I \times$  = with  $I \times$  = or with  $I \times$  = and precisely one .



**Where does it live?** In  $Kom(Mat(\langle Cob \rangle / \{S, T, 4Tu\})) / homotopy$  :

$Kom$ : Complexes    $Cob$ : Cobordisms  
 $\langle \dots \rangle$ : Formal lin. comb.    $Mat$ : Matrices    $S$ : = 0    $T$ : = 2

**Jones/Kauffman?**

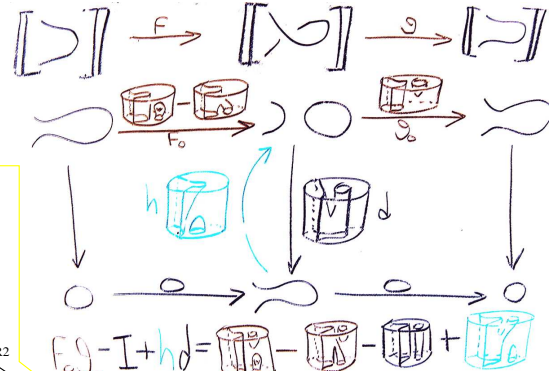
$$V^{\otimes 3} \longrightarrow (V^{\otimes 2} \oplus V^{\otimes 2} \oplus V^{\otimes 2})\{1\} \longrightarrow (V \oplus V \oplus V)\{2\} \longrightarrow V^{\otimes 2}\{3\}$$

A TQFT takes it to a complex whose graded Euler characteristic is the Jones polynomial.

The key point:  $\rightarrow V = \langle v_+, v_- \rangle$ ,  $\deg v_{\pm} = \pm 1$   
 $q\text{-dim} V = q + q^{-1}$

**But is it invariant?**

(With similar proofs for R-II and R-III)



**Why is it interesting?**

1. It is stronger than the Jones polynomial.
2. It is less understood than the Jones polynomial:
  - a. Does it have a topological interpretation?
  - b. Does it have a "physical" interpretation?
  - c. Does it also work for other quantum invariants?
  - d. Does it work for manifolds and for knots in manifolds?
  - e. Is there a relation with finite-type invariants?
  - f. Does it work for "virtual knots"?
3. Jacobsson, Khovanov: It is a functor!!!  
 (from knots and cobordisms to complexes and morphisms)



M. Jacobsson

See <http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/papers/Cobordism>

**A canopoly?**



Dror Bar-Natan, Warszawa, July 2003.

More at <http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Talks/UWO-040213/>