

Dror Bar-Natan: Talks: Geneva-131024:  $\omega := \text{http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Talks/Geneva-131024}$

## 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 formulas.

**Disturbing Conjecture**

$\mathcal{K}^{bh} = \mathbb{Q}$

**Dictionary.**

**Expansions**  
the semi-virtual  $\bowtie := \begin{matrix} \diagdown \\ \diagup \end{matrix} - \begin{matrix} \diagup \\ \diagdown \end{matrix}$  i.e.  $\begin{matrix} \diagdown \\ \diagup \end{matrix} - \begin{matrix} \diagup \\ \diagdown \end{matrix}$  or  $\begin{matrix} \diagup \\ \diagdown \end{matrix} - \begin{matrix} \diagdown \\ \diagup \end{matrix}$

Let  $\mathcal{I}^n := \langle \text{pictures with } \geq n \text{ semi-virts} \rangle \subset \mathcal{K}^{bh}$ .  
We seek an "expansion"

$$Z: \mathcal{K}^{bh} \rightarrow \text{gr } \mathcal{K}^{bh} = \bigoplus \mathcal{I}^n / \mathcal{I}^{n+1} =: \mathcal{A}^{bh}$$

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  $\pi \circ \text{gr } \tilde{Z} = \text{Id}$ . It follows that •  $\pi$  is an isomorphism.  
•  $Z := \tilde{Z} \circ \pi$  is an expansion.

**Action 1.**

$\tilde{\mathcal{A}}^{bh} = \mathbb{Q}$

$\pi: \begin{matrix} c & d \\ a & b \end{matrix} \mapsto \begin{matrix} d & c \\ a & b \end{matrix}$  (then connect using xings or v-xings)

**Deriving  $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}^{bh}$ .**  
Start from  $\begin{matrix} \diagdown \\ \diagup \end{matrix} = \begin{matrix} \diagup \\ \diagdown \end{matrix}$  key: use  $\begin{matrix} \diagdown \\ \diagup \end{matrix} = \begin{matrix} \diagup \\ \diagdown \end{matrix} + \begin{matrix} \diagdown \\ \diagup \end{matrix}$

**Action 2.**

$\tilde{Z}: \begin{matrix} d & c \\ a & b \end{matrix} \mapsto \begin{matrix} c & d \\ a & b \end{matrix} = \begin{matrix} \diagdown \\ \diagup \end{matrix} + \begin{matrix} \diagup \\ \diagdown \end{matrix} + \frac{1}{2} \begin{matrix} \diagdown \\ \diagup \end{matrix} + \dots$

**R3.**

**The Bracket-Rise Theorem.**

$\mathcal{A}^{bh} \cong \left( \begin{matrix} \text{diagram} \end{matrix} \right) \Big| \begin{matrix} \overline{STU}, \overline{AS}, \\ \text{and } \overline{IH\tilde{X}} \\ \text{relations} \end{matrix}$

$\overline{STU}_1: \begin{matrix} \diagdown \\ \diagup \end{matrix} = \begin{matrix} \diagup \\ \diagdown \end{matrix} - \begin{matrix} \diagdown \\ \diagup \end{matrix}$   $\overline{STU}_2: \begin{matrix} \diagup \\ \diagdown \end{matrix} = \begin{matrix} \diagdown \\ \diagup \end{matrix} - \begin{matrix} \diagup \\ \diagdown \end{matrix}$

$\overline{STU}_3 = \text{TC}: 0 = \begin{matrix} \diagdown \\ \diagup \end{matrix} - \begin{matrix} \diagup \\ \diagdown \end{matrix}$   $\overline{IH\tilde{X}}: \begin{matrix} \diagdown \\ \diagup \end{matrix} = \begin{matrix} \diagup \\ \diagdown \end{matrix} - \begin{matrix} \diagdown \\ \diagup \end{matrix}$

**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:

I have a nice free-Lie calculator!

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

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(meaning, if  $\deg k = n$ ,  $\tilde{Z}(\pi(k)) = \pi(k) +$   
higher order terms)