

Facts and Dreams About v-Knots and Etingof-Kazhdan, I

Dror Bar-Natan at Swiss Knots 2011

<http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Talks/SwissKnots-1106/>
Foots & refs on PDF version, page 3.

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". $\text{gr}_I K := \bigoplus I^m/I^{m+1}$ has a product μ , especially, $\mu_{11}: (C = I/I^2)^{\otimes 2} \rightarrow I^2/I^3$. The "quadratic approximation" $\mathcal{A}_I(K) := FC/(\ker \mu_{11})$ of K surjects using μ on $\text{gr } K$.



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 μ .

Dror's Dream. All interesting graded objects and equations, especially those around quantum groups, arise this way.

Example 1.



$$K = \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \text{crossing} \\ \text{strand} \end{array} \right\rangle \quad I = \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \text{triple} \\ \text{strand} \end{array} \right\rangle$$

$$(K/I^{m+1})^* = (\text{invariants of type } m) =: \mathcal{V}_m$$

$$(I^m/I^{m+1})^* = \mathcal{V}_m/\mathcal{V}_{m-1} \quad C = \langle [t^{ij}, t^{ij}] = t^{2i} \rangle = \langle \text{HH} \rangle$$

$$\ker \mu_{11} = \langle [t^{ij}, t^{kl}] = 0 = [t^{ij}, t^{ik} + t^{jk}] \rangle = \langle \text{4T relations} \rangle$$

$$\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{A}_n = (\text{horizontal chord diagrams mod 4T}) = \langle \text{HHHH} \rangle / 4T$$

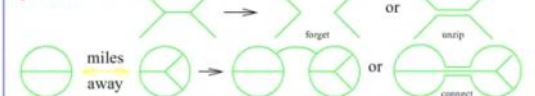
Z : universal finite type invariant, the Kontsevich integral.

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.

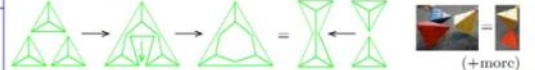
Example 5 - Knotted Trivalent Graphs.



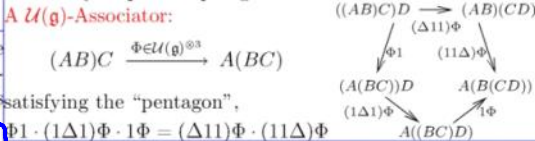
Operations.



Presentation. KTG is generated by ribbon twists and the tetrahedron Δ , 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: $((AB)C)D \xrightarrow{(\Delta_{11})\Phi} (AB)(CD)$
 $(A(BC))D \xrightarrow{(\Delta_{11})\Phi} A((BC)D)$
 satisfying the "pentagon", $\Phi \cdot (1\Delta 1)\Phi \cdot 1\Phi = (\Delta_{11})\Phi \cdot (1\Delta 1)\Phi$

$$\mathcal{A}(\uparrow_2) := \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \text{trivalent vertices} \end{array} \right\rangle / \Delta_S, \quad \text{Given a metrized } \mathfrak{g} = \langle X_a \rangle$$

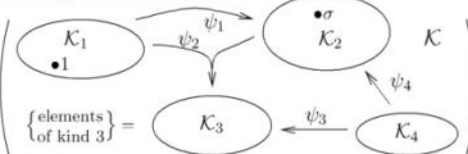
$$\text{deg} = \frac{1}{2} \# \{ \text{trivalent vertices} \}$$

$$\sum_{a,b,c,d,e,f=1}^{\dim \mathfrak{g}} f_{abc} f_{dec} X_a X_d X_f \otimes X_b X_f X_e$$



decide on a v-knot and use PVLS info it.

General Algebraic Structures¹.

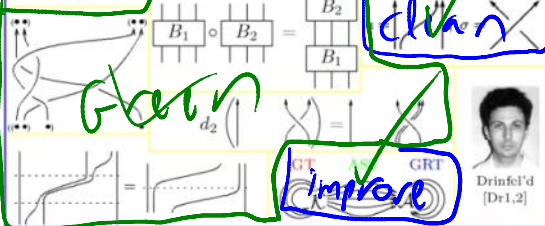


- Has kinds, elements, operations, and maybe constants. **All still works!**
- Must have "the free structure over some generators".
- We always allow formal linear combinations.

Example 3. Quandle: a set K with an op \wedge s.t. $1 \wedge x = 1, x \wedge 1 = x = x \wedge x$, (appetizers)
 $(x \wedge y) \wedge z = (x \wedge z) \wedge (y \wedge z)$. (main)

$\mathcal{A}(K)$ is a graded Lie 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:
 $(\bar{x} \wedge \bar{y}) \wedge \bar{z} = (\bar{x} \wedge \bar{z}) \wedge \bar{y} + \bar{x} \wedge (\bar{y} \wedge \bar{z})$.

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 story² arises naturally.



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Example 6 - Ribbon 2-Knots. Also, "movies of flying rings".

The w-relations include R234, VR1234, D, Overcrossings Commute (OC) but not UC:

OC:

as

yet not UC:

The unary w-operations

Unzip along an annulus

Unzip along a disk

Trivalent w-Tangles.

$$wTT = CA \left\langle \begin{array}{c} w- \\ \text{generators} \end{array} \mid \begin{array}{c} w- \\ \text{relations} \end{array} \mid \begin{array}{c} \text{unary } w- \\ \text{operations} \end{array} \right\rangle$$

Theorem. There exists a homomorphic expansion Z for wTT. In particular, Z respects R4 and intertwines annulus and disk unzips:

$V \cdot (\Delta \otimes 1)(R) = R^{13} R^{23} V$ in $\mathcal{A}^w(\uparrow_3)$

$VV^* = I$ in $\mathcal{A}^w(\uparrow_2)$

$V \cdot \Delta(\omega) = \omega \otimes \omega$ in $\mathcal{A}^w(\uparrow_2)$

Kashiwara-Vergne-Alekseev-Enriquez-Torossian

Alekseev-Torossian [AT] (equivalent to Kashiwara-Vergne [KV]). There are elements $F \in \text{TAut}_2$ and $a \in \text{tr}_1$ such that $F(x+y) = \log e^x e^y$ and $jF = a(x) + a(y) - a(\log e^x e^y)$.

Theorem. That's equivalent to a homomorphic expansion for wTT.

The Main Course.

$$vTT^a = \overline{CA} \left\langle \begin{array}{c} v- \\ \text{generators} \end{array} \mid \begin{array}{c} v- \\ \text{relations} \end{array} \mid \begin{array}{c} \text{unary } v- \\ \text{operations} \end{array} \right\rangle$$

Forbidden Theorem. There exists a homomorphic expansion Z for vTT^a .

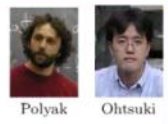
Why Forbidden?

- Minor statement details may be off.
- I don't understand the proof.
- There isn't yet a knot-theoretic view of the proof, like there is in the w-case

Etingof

Kazhdan

The Polyak-Ohtsuki Description of \mathcal{A}^w [Po].



write k swap w/ previous block.

Challenges and Hopes. Why should you and I care?

- A gateway into the forbidden territory of "Quantum Groups".
- Abstractly more pleasing: we study the things and not just their representations.
- Potentially, \mathcal{A}^w has many more quotients/images than there are quantum groups. What are they?
- My old Alg. knot th. dream [Dichterman]

$V \rightarrow \text{loop after [AT]}$. "cut and cap" is well-defined(!) on \mathcal{K}^w

Basic: α Better: α_c α_c

Introduce "Punctures". $\Phi \rightarrow V$ after [AET]

means strand

punctures expand to the nearest Y-vertex

\mathcal{K}^w . Allow tubes and strands and tube-strand vertices, yet allow only "compact" knots — no runs to ∞ .

$\mathcal{K}^w \leftrightarrow \mathcal{K}^w$ equivalence. \mathcal{K}^w has a homomorphic expansion iff \mathcal{K}^w has a homomorphic expansion.

\Rightarrow Puncture \rightarrow $\rightarrow 0$

\Leftarrow \rightarrow (makes sense, and CA ops can be emulated)

Theorem. The generators of \mathcal{K}^w can be written in terms of the generators of \mathcal{K}^w (i.e., given Φ , can write a formula for \mathcal{K}^w).

Sketch. \rightarrow and \rightarrow so enough to write any T . Here go:

\rightarrow \rightarrow = "the sled"

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

www.katlas.org



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. See my paper [BN1] and my talk/handout/video [BN2].

References

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- [AET] A. Alekseev, B. Enriquez, and C. Torossian, *Drinfeld associators, Braid groups and explicit solutions of the Kashiwara-Vergne equations*, Pub. Math. de L’IHES **112-1** (2010) 143–189, arXiv:arXiv:0903.4067.
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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 PtB , too).
3. (3 minutes) Generalized algebraic structures.
4. (1 minute) Example: quandles.
5. (4 minute) Example: parenthesized braids and horizontal associators.
6. (6 minute) Example: KTGs and non-horizontal associators. (“Bracket rise” arises here).
7. (5 minute) Example: wKO ’s and the Kashiwara-Vergne equations.
8. (15 minute) vKO ’s, bi-algebras, E-K, what would it mean to find an expansion, why I care (stronger invariant, more interesting quotients).
9. (5 minute) wKO ’s, uKO ’s, and Alekseev-Enriquez-Torossian.
10. (1 minute) The third page.