

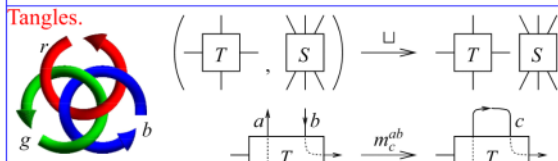
# PolyPoly on 150701

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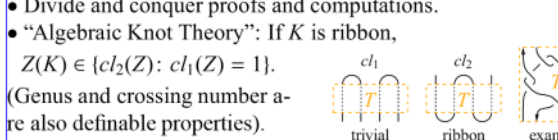
Dror Bar-Natan: Talks: Qinhuangdao-1507: <http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Talks/Qinhuangdao-1507/>

**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.



**Why Tangles?**

- Finitely presented. (meta-associativity:  $m_a^{ab} m_a^{ac} = m_b^{bc} m_a^{ab}$ )
- Divide and conquer proofs and computations.
- "Algebraic Knot Theory": If  $K$  is ribbon,



**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

$$1. \left( \begin{array}{c|c} \omega_1 & S_1 \\ \hline S_1 & A_1 \end{array} \middle| \begin{array}{c|c} \omega_2 & S_2 \\ \hline S_2 & A_2 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{\cup} \begin{array}{c|c} \omega_1 \omega_2 & S_1 \ S_2 \\ \hline S_1 \ S_2 & A_1 \ A_2 \end{array}$$

$$2. \begin{array}{c|c|c|c} \omega & a & b & S \\ \hline a & \alpha & \beta & \theta \\ b & \gamma & \delta & \epsilon \\ S & \phi & \psi & \Xi \end{array} \xrightarrow{\mu=1-\beta} \begin{array}{c|c|c} \mu\omega & c & S \\ \hline c & \gamma + \alpha\delta/\mu & \epsilon + \delta\theta/\mu \\ S & \phi + \alpha\psi/\mu & \Xi + \psi\theta/\mu \end{array}_{T_a, T_b \rightarrow T_c}$$

and satisfying  $(|a: a^* \curvearrowright b^*, b^* \curvearrowright a^*) \xrightarrow{\gamma} \left( \begin{array}{c|c} 1 & a \\ \hline a & 1 \end{array}; \begin{array}{c|c} 1 & a \\ \hline b & 0 \end{array} \middle| \begin{array}{c|c} 1 & b \\ \hline 1 & 1 - T_a^{\pm 1} \\ \hline 0 & T_a^{\pm 1} \end{array} \right)$

- In Addition**
- The matrix part is 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 propoganda & implementation.



A v-view comes here!

**Implementation key idea:**

```

(\omega, A = (\alpha_{ab})) \leftrightarrow
(\omega, \lambda = \sum \alpha_{ab} t_a h_b)
Collect[Factor[Factor[...]]];
Format[Factor[Factor[...]]];
S := UnionCases[Factor[...]];
M := Outer[Factor[...]];
M := Transpose[M];
M := Transpose[M];
M := MatrixForm[M];

```

## Polynomial Time Knot Polynomials, A

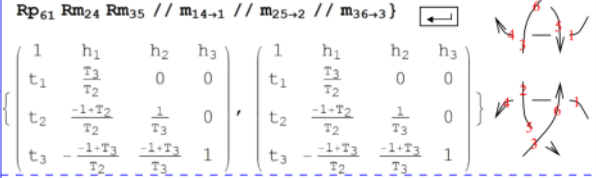
**Meta-Associativity**

$$\eta = \Gamma[\omega, \{t_1, t_2, t_3, t_8\}] \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_{11} & \alpha_{12} & \alpha_{13} & \theta_1 \\ \alpha_{21} & \alpha_{22} & \alpha_{23} & \theta_2 \\ \alpha_{31} & \alpha_{32} & \alpha_{33} & \theta_3 \\ \phi_1 & \phi_2 & \phi_3 & \Xi \end{pmatrix} \cdot \{h_1, h_2, h_3, h_8\};$$

**Runs.**

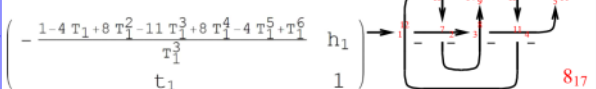
$$(\eta // m_{12-1} // m_{13+1}) = (\eta // m_{23+2} // m_{12-1})$$

True R3 ... divide and conquer!



$$\mathcal{L} = Rm_{12,1} Rm_{27} Rm_{83} Rm_{4,11} Rp_{16,5} Rp_{6,13} Rp_{14,9} Rp_{10,15};$$

Do  $[\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L} // m_{1k+1}, \{k, 2, 16\}]$ ;



**Weaknesses.**

- $m_c^{ab}$  is non-linear.
- The product  $\omega A$  is always Laurent, but my current proof takes induction with exponentially many conditions.

Add. 1. The link version of AKT ✓

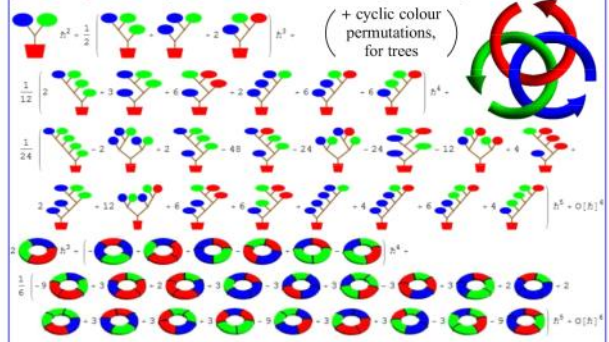
2. Rough dimension count. ✓
3. Hekichera trace / 0 - issue. ✓
4. Some  $\text{tr}_c$  computations (Borromean $^2_6$ ). ~
5. AKT using Hekichera trace ✓
6. Unitarity issue ✓
7. The relationship w/  $A^w$  w/ an explicit map! ~

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 $\omega\epsilon\beta := \text{http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Talks/Qinhuangdao-1507/}$

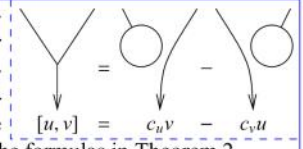
### Polynomial Time Knot Polynomials, B

**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.



**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.  
 [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.

*Purple: Realistic Wishful thinking*  
 Let's talk about China, America, Taiwan, economy, ecology, religion, democracy, censorship, and all else.



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

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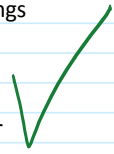
*X →*  
*X →*  
*→*

*Really add:*

*Something about one- $\infty$ , abc calculus,*

"I'm 2D and I'm a friend of Vaughan Jones,"

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.