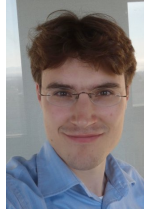




Knot Invariants from Finite Dimensional Integration

Abstract. For the purpose of today, an “I-Type Knot Invariant” is a knot invariant computed from a knot diagram by integrating the exponential of a *perturbed Gaussian Lagrangian* which is a sum over the features of that diagram (crossings, edges, faces) of locally defined quantities, over a product of finite dimensional spaces associated to those same features.



joint with R. van der Veen



invariants →

Something simple: numbers, polynomials, matrices, etc.

Knots.

- Q. Are there any such things? **A.** Yes.
- Q. Are they any good? **A.** They are the strongest we know per CPU cycle, and are excellent in other ways too.
- Q. Didn't Witten do that back in 1988 with path integrals?
- A. No. His constructions are infinite dimensional and far from rigorous.



- Q. But integrals belong in analysis!
- A. Ours only use squeaky-clean algebra.

The $sl_2^{\epsilon^2}$ Example. With T an indeterminate and with $\epsilon^2 = 0$:

$$Z = \int_{\mathbb{R}^{14}_{p_i x_i}} \mathcal{L}(X_{15}^+) \mathcal{L}(X_{62}^+) \mathcal{L}(X_{37}^+) \mathcal{L}(C_4^{-1})$$

where $\mathcal{L}(X_{ij}^s) = T^{s/2} e^{L(X_{ij}^s)}$ and $\mathcal{L}(C_i^\varphi) = T^{\varphi/2} e^{L(C_i^\varphi)}$, and

$$L(X_{ij}^s) = x_i(p_{i+1} - p_i) + x_j(p_{j+1} - p_j) + (T^s - 1)x_i(p_{i+1} - p_{j+1}) + \frac{\epsilon s}{2} \left(x_i(p_i - p_j) \left(\begin{matrix} (T^s - 1)x_i p_j \\ + 2(1 - x_j p_j) \end{matrix} \right) - 1 \right)$$

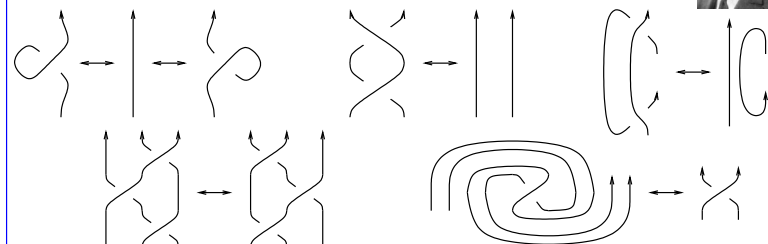
$$L(C_i^\varphi) = x_i(p_{i+1} - p_i) + \epsilon \varphi (1/2 - x_i p_i)$$

So $Z = T \int e^{L(\otimes)} dp_1 \dots dp_7 dx_1 \dots dx_7$, where $L(\otimes) =$

$$\sum_{i=1}^7 x_i(p_{i+1} - p_i) + (T-1)(x_1(p_2 - p_6) + x_6(p_7 - p_3) + x_3(p_4 - p_8)) + \frac{\epsilon}{2} \begin{pmatrix} x_1(p_1 - p_5)((T-1)x_1 p_5 + 2(1 - x_5 p_5)) - 1 \\ + x_6(p_6 - p_2)((T-1)x_6 p_2 + 2(1 - x_2 p_2)) - 1 \\ + x_3(p_3 - p_7)((T-1)x_3 p_7 + 2(1 - x_7 p_7)) - 1 \\ + 2x_4 p_4 - 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

and so $Z = (T - 1 + T^{-1})^{-1} \exp\left(\epsilon \cdot \frac{(T-2+T^{-1})(T+T^{-1})}{(T-1+T^{-1})^2}\right) = \Delta^{-1} \exp\left(\epsilon \cdot \frac{(T-2+T^{-1})\rho_1}{\Delta^2}\right)$. Here Δ is Alexander's polynomial and ρ_1 is Rozansky-Overbay's polynomial [R1]–[R3], [Ov, BV1, BV2].

Theorem. Z is a knot invariant.
Proof. Use Fubini (details later).



- To Do.**
- Human-hard but computer-very-easy (poly time!).
 - Strong!
 - Details of the proof.
 - Where is it coming from?
 - A philosophical point: “Universal invariants” are qualitatively better than representation theory ones.

- The Good.**
1. At the centre of low dimensional topology.
 2. “Invariants” connect to pretty much all of algebra.

- The Agony.** 1&2 don't talk to each other.
- Not enough topological applications for all these invariants.
 - The fancy algebra doesn't arise naturally within topology.
- ⇒ We're still missing something about the relationship between knots and algebra.

(Alternative) Gaussian Integration.



Goal. Compute $\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} dx \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} a^{ij} x_i x_j + V(x)\right)$ (if convergent)

Solution. Set $\mathcal{Z}_\lambda(x) := \lambda^{n/2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} dy \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\lambda} a^{ij} y_i y_j + V(x+y)\right)$. Then $\mathcal{Z}_1(0)$ is what we want, $\mathcal{Z}_0(x) = (\det A)^{-1/2} \exp V(x)$, and with g_{ij} the inverse matrix of a^{ij} and noting that under the dy integral $\partial_y = 0$,

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{2} g_{ij} \partial_{x_i} \partial_{x_j} \mathcal{Z}_\lambda(x) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} dy g_{ij} (\partial_{x_i} - \partial_{y_i}) (\partial_{x_j} - \partial_{y_j}) \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\lambda} a^{ij} y_i y_j + V(x+y)\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2\lambda^2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} dy (g_{ij} a^{ii'} a^{jj'} y_{i'} y_{j'} + \lambda g_{ij} a^{ij}) \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\lambda} a^{ij} y_i y_j + V(x+y)\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2\lambda^2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} dy (a^{ij} y_i y_j + \lambda n) \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\lambda} a^{ij} y_i y_j + V(x+y)\right) \\ &= \partial_\lambda \mathcal{Z}_\lambda(x). \end{aligned}$$

Hence $(*) \partial_\lambda \mathcal{Z}_\lambda(x) = \frac{1}{2} g_{ij} \partial_{x_i} \partial_{x_j} \mathcal{Z}_\lambda(x)$, and therefore $\mathcal{Z}_\lambda(x) = (\det A)^{-1/2} \exp\left(\frac{\lambda}{2} g_{ij} \partial_{x_i} \partial_{x_j}\right) \exp V(x)$.

We've just witnessed the birth of “Feynman Diagrams”. **Even better.** With $Z_\lambda := \log(\sqrt{\det A} \mathcal{Z}_\lambda)$, by a simple substitution into (*), we get the “Synthesis Equation”:

$$Z_0 = V, \quad \partial_\lambda Z_\lambda = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^n g_{ij} (\partial_{x_i x_j} Z_\lambda + (\partial_{x_i} Z_\lambda)(\partial_{x_j} Z_\lambda)),$$

an ODE (in λ) whose solution is pure algebra.

Picard Iteration (used to prove the existence and uniqueness of solutions of ODEs). To solve $\partial_\lambda f_\lambda = F(f_\lambda)$ with a given f_0 , start with f_0 , iterate $f \mapsto f_0 + \int_0^\lambda F(f_\lambda) d\lambda$, and seek a fixed point. In our cases, it is always reached after finitely many iterations!

Definition. \mathcal{f} : The result of this process, ignoring the convergence of the actual integral.

Strong. A faster program to compute ρ_1 is available at [BV2]. With it we find that the pair (Δ, ρ_1) attains 53,684 distinct values on the 59,937 prime knots with up to 14 crossings (a deficit of 6,253), whereas the pair (HOMFLYPT polynomial, Khovanov Homology) attains only 49,149 distinct values on the same knots (a deficit of 10,788).

In as much as we know the pair (Δ, ρ_1) is the strongest knot invariant that can be computed in **polynomial time** (and hence, even for very large knots).

Preliminaries

This is IType.nb of $\omega\epsilon\beta/ap$.

☉ 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/AP/Talks/Groningen-240530>

to compute rotation numbers.

☉ CF [ω . \mathcal{E}] := CF [ω] × CF / @ \mathcal{E} ;

CF [\mathcal{E} _List] := CF / @ \mathcal{E} ;

CF [\mathcal{E}] := Module [{ vs, ps, c } ,

vs = Cases [\mathcal{E} , { x | p | ξ | π } , ∞] ∪ { x, p, ϵ } ;

Total [CoefficientRules [Expand [\mathcal{E}] , vs] / .

(ps_ → c_) ⇒ Factor [c] (Times @@ vs^{ps})]] ;

Integration

Using Picard Iteration!

☉ $\mathbb{E} / : \mathbb{E} [A_] \times \mathbb{E} [B_] := \mathbb{E} [A + B] ;$

☉ $\$ \pi = \text{Identity}$; (* hacks in pink *)

☉ Unprotect [Integrate] ; (* keys in yellow *)

$\int \omega$. $\mathbb{E} [L_] \, d (vs_List) :=$

Module [{ n, L0, Q, Δ , G, Z0, Z, λ , DZ, FZ, a, b } ,

n = Length @ vs ; L0 = L / . $\epsilon \rightarrow \theta$;

Q = Table [(- $\partial_{vs[[a]]} \partial_{vs[[b]]} L0$) / . Thread [vs → θ] / .
(p | x) → θ , { a, n } , { b, n }] ;

If [($\Delta = \text{Det} [Q]$) == 0 , Return @ "Degenerate Q!"] ;

Z = Z0 = CF @ $\$ \pi [L + vs . Q . vs / 2]$; G = Inverse [Q] ;

DZ_a := $\partial_{vs[[a]]} Z$; DZ_{a,b} := $\partial_{vs[[b]]} DZ_a$;

FZ := CF @ $\$ \pi \left[\frac{1}{2} \sum_{a=1}^n \sum_{b=1}^n G[a, b] (DZ_{a,b} + DZ_a DZ_b) \right]$;

FixedPoint [(Z = Z0 + $\int_0^\lambda FZ \, d\lambda$) & , Z] ;

PowerExpand @ Factor [$\omega \Delta^{-1/2}$] ×

$\mathbb{E} [CF [Z / . $\lambda \rightarrow 1$ / . Thread [vs → θ]]]] ;$

Protect [Integrate] ;

☉ $\int \mathbb{E} [- \mu x^2 / 2 + i \xi x] \, d \{ x \}$

☐ $\mathbb{E} \left[- \frac{\xi^2}{2\mu} \right]$

☉ $L = - \frac{1}{2} \{ x_1, x_2 \} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ b & c \end{pmatrix} \cdot \{ x_1, x_2 \} + \{ \xi_1, \xi_2 \} \cdot \{ x_1, x_2 \}$;

$Z_{12} = \int \mathbb{E} [L] \, d \{ x_1, x_2 \}$

☐ $\mathbb{E} \left[\frac{c \xi_1^2}{2(-b^2+a c)} + \frac{b \xi_1 \xi_2}{b^2-a c} + \frac{a \xi_2^2}{2(-b^2+a c)} \right]$

$\sqrt{-b^2 + a c}$

☉ $\{ Z_{11} = \int \mathbb{E} [L] \, d \{ x_1 \} , Z_{12} = \int Z_{11} \, d \{ x_2 \} \}$

☐ $\mathbb{E} \left[\frac{- \frac{(-b^2+a c) x_2^2}{2a} - \frac{b x_2 \xi_1}{a} + \frac{\xi_1^2}{2a} + x_2 \xi_2}{\sqrt{a}} \right] , \text{True}$

☉ $\$ \pi = \text{Normal} [\# + 0 [\epsilon]^{13}] \&$; $\int \mathbb{E} [- \phi^2 / 2 + \epsilon \phi^3 / 6] \, d \{ \phi \}$

☐ $\mathbb{E} \left[\frac{5 \epsilon^2}{24} + \frac{5 \epsilon^4}{16} + \frac{1105 \epsilon^6}{1152} + \frac{565 \epsilon^8}{128} + \frac{82825 \epsilon^{10}}{3072} + \frac{19675 \epsilon^{12}}{96} \right]$

From <https://oeis.org/A226260>:

0 1 3 6 2 7
: : 13 THE ON-LINE ENCYCLOPEDIA
: : 20 OF
23 IS OF INTEGER SEQUENCES[®]
10 22 11 21

founded in 1964 by N. J. A. Sloane

[Hints](#)

(Greetings from The On-Line Encyclopedia of Integer Sequences!)

A226260 Numerators of mass formula for connected vacuum graphs on 2n nodes for a ϕ^3 field theory.
1, 5, 5, 1105, 565, 82825, 19675, 1282031525, 80727925, 1683480621875, 13209845125,
2239646759308375, 19739117098375, 632079170908309375, 32468078556378125, 38362676768845045751875,
281365778405032973125, 2824650747089425586152484375, 776632157034116712734375 (list; graph; refs; listen;
history; text; internal format)

The Right-Handed Trefoil

☉ $K = \text{Mirror} @ \text{Knot} [3, 1]$; Features [K]

☐ Features [7, C₄ [-1] X_{1,5} [1] X_{3,7} [1] X_{6,2} [1]]

☉ $\mathcal{L} [X_{i,j} [s_]] := T^{s/2} \mathbb{E} [$
 $x_i (p_{i+1} - p_i) + x_j (p_{j+1} - p_j) +$
 $(T^s - 1) x_i (p_{i+1} - p_{j+1}) +$
 $(\epsilon s / 2) \times$
 $(x_i (p_i - p_j) ((T^s - 1) x_i p_j + 2 (1 - x_j p_j)) - 1)]$

$\mathcal{L} [C_i [\varphi_]] := T^{\varphi/2} \mathbb{E} [x_i (p_{i+1} - p_i) + \epsilon \varphi \left(\frac{1}{2} - x_i p_i \right)]$

$\mathcal{L} [K_] := \text{CF} [\mathcal{L} / @ \text{Features} [K] [[2]]]$

vs [K_] :=

Join @@ Table [{ p_i, x_i } , { i, Features [K] [[1]] }]

☉ { vs [K] , $\mathcal{L} [K]$ }

☐ { { p₁, x₁, p₂, x₂, p₃, x₃, p₄, x₄, p₅, x₅, p₆, x₆, p₇, x₇ } ,

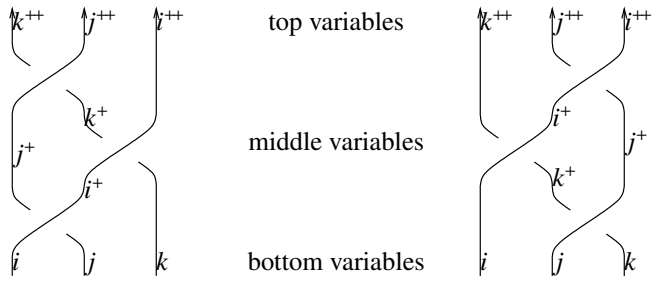
$T \mathbb{E} [- 2 \epsilon - p_1 x_1 + \epsilon p_1 x_1 + T p_2 x_1 - \epsilon p_5 x_1 + (1 - T) p_6 x_1 +$
 $\frac{1}{2} (- 1 + T) \epsilon p_1 p_5 x_1^2 + \frac{1}{2} (1 - T) \epsilon p_5^2 x_1^2 - p_2 x_2 +$
 $p_3 x_2 - p_3 x_3 + \epsilon p_3 x_3 + T p_4 x_3 - \epsilon p_7 x_3 + (1 - T) p_8 x_3 +$
 $\frac{1}{2} (- 1 + T) \epsilon p_3 p_7 x_3^2 + \frac{1}{2} (1 - T) \epsilon p_7^2 x_3^2 - p_4 x_4 +$
 $\epsilon p_4 x_4 + p_5 x_4 - \epsilon p_5 x_5 + p_6 x_5 - \epsilon p_1 p_5 x_1 x_5 +$
 $\epsilon p_5^2 x_1 x_5 - \epsilon p_2 x_6 + (1 - T) p_3 x_6 - \epsilon p_6 x_6 +$
 $\epsilon p_6 x_6 + T p_7 x_6 + \epsilon p_2^2 x_2 x_6 - \epsilon p_2 p_6 x_2 x_6 +$
 $\frac{1}{2} (1 - T) \epsilon p_2^2 x_6^2 + \frac{1}{2} (- 1 + T) \epsilon p_2 p_6 x_6^2 -$
 $p_7 x_7 + p_8 x_7 - \epsilon p_3 p_7 x_3 x_7 + \epsilon p_7^2 x_3 x_7]$

☉ $\$ \pi = \text{Normal} [\# + 0 [\epsilon]^2] \&$; $\int \mathcal{L} [K] \, d (vs @ K)$

☐ $i T \mathbb{E} \left[- \frac{(-1+T)^2 (1+T^2) \epsilon}{(1-T+T^2)^2} \right]$

$1 - T + T^2$

Invariance Under Reidemeister 3



$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{\text{Lhs}} &= \int (\mathcal{L} / @ (X_{i,j} [1] X_{i+1,k} [1] X_{j+1,k+1} [1])) \\ &\quad \mathfrak{d}\{\mathbf{p}_{i+1}, \mathbf{p}_{j+1}, \mathbf{p}_{k+1}, \mathbf{x}_{i+1}, \mathbf{x}_{j+1}, \mathbf{x}_{k+1}\}; \\ \text{rhs} &= \int (\mathcal{L} / @ (X_{j,k} [1] X_{i,k+1} [1] X_{i+1,j+1} [1])) \\ &\quad \mathfrak{d}\{\mathbf{x}_{i+1}, \mathbf{p}_{i+1}, \mathbf{p}_{j+1}, \mathbf{p}_{k+1}, \mathbf{x}_{j+1}, \mathbf{x}_{k+1}\}; \\ \text{lhs} &=== \text{rhs} \end{aligned}$$

False

Invariance Under Reidemeister 3, Take 2

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{\text{Lhs}} &= \int (\mathcal{L} / @ (X_{i,j} [1] X_{i+1,k} [1] X_{j+1,k+1} [1])) \\ &\quad \mathfrak{d}\{\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j, \mathbf{x}_k, \mathbf{p}_{i+1}, \mathbf{p}_{j+1}, \mathbf{p}_{k+1}, \mathbf{x}_{i+1}, \mathbf{x}_{j+1}, \mathbf{x}_{k+1}\}; \\ \text{rhs} &= \int (\mathcal{L} / @ (X_{j,k} [1] X_{i,k+1} [1] X_{i+1,j+1} [1])) \\ &\quad \mathfrak{d}\{\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j, \mathbf{x}_k, \mathbf{x}_{i+1}, \mathbf{p}_{i+1}, \mathbf{p}_{j+1}, \mathbf{p}_{k+1}, \mathbf{x}_{j+1}, \mathbf{x}_{k+1}\}; \\ \text{lhs} &=== \text{rhs} \end{aligned}$$

True

⊙ lhs

⊠ Degenerate Q!

Invariance Under Reidemeister 3, Take 3

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{\text{Lhs}} &= \int (\mathbb{E} [\mathfrak{i} \pi_i \mathbf{p}_i + \mathfrak{i} \pi_j \mathbf{p}_j + \mathfrak{i} \pi_k \mathbf{p}_k] \times \\ &\quad \mathcal{L} / @ (X_{i,j} [1] X_{i+1,k} [1] X_{j+1,k+1} [1])) \\ &\quad \mathfrak{d}\{\mathbf{p}_i, \mathbf{p}_j, \mathbf{p}_k, \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j, \mathbf{x}_k, \mathbf{p}_{i+1}, \mathbf{p}_{j+1}, \mathbf{p}_{k+1}, \mathbf{x}_{i+1}, \\ &\quad \mathbf{x}_{j+1}, \mathbf{x}_{k+1}\}; \\ \text{rhs} &= \int (\mathbb{E} [\mathfrak{i} \pi_i \mathbf{p}_i + \mathfrak{i} \pi_j \mathbf{p}_j + \mathfrak{i} \pi_k \mathbf{p}_k] \times \\ &\quad \mathcal{L} / @ (X_{j,k} [1] X_{i,k+1} [1] X_{i+1,j+1} [1])) \\ &\quad \mathfrak{d}\{\mathbf{p}_i, \mathbf{p}_j, \mathbf{p}_k, \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j, \mathbf{x}_k, \mathbf{p}_{i+1}, \mathbf{p}_{j+1}, \mathbf{p}_{k+1}, \mathbf{x}_{i+1}, \\ &\quad \mathbf{x}_{j+1}, \mathbf{x}_{k+1}\}; \\ \text{lhs} &== \text{rhs} \end{aligned}$$

True

⊙ lhs

$$\begin{aligned} \square \mathbb{T}^{3/2} \mathbb{E} &\left[-\frac{3\epsilon}{2} + \mathfrak{i} \mathbb{T}^2 \mathbf{p}_{2+i} \pi_i - \mathfrak{i} (-1 + \mathbb{T}) \mathbb{T} \mathbf{p}_{2+j} \pi_i + \right. \\ &\quad \mathfrak{i} \mathbb{T}^2 \in \mathbf{p}_{2+j} \pi_i - \mathfrak{i} (-1 + \mathbb{T}) \mathbf{p}_{2+k} \pi_i + \\ &\quad \mathfrak{i} \mathbb{T} \in \mathbf{p}_{2+k} \pi_i - \frac{1}{2} (-1 + \mathbb{T}) \mathbb{T}^3 \in \mathbf{p}_{2+i} \mathbf{p}_{2+j} \pi_i^2 + \\ &\quad \frac{1}{2} (-1 + \mathbb{T}) \mathbb{T}^3 \in \mathbf{p}_{2+j}^2 \pi_i^2 - \frac{1}{2} (-1 + \mathbb{T}) \mathbb{T}^2 \in \mathbf{p}_{2+i} \mathbf{p}_{2+k} \pi_i^2 + \\ &\quad \frac{1}{2} (-1 + \mathbb{T})^2 \mathbb{T} \in \mathbf{p}_{2+j} \mathbf{p}_{2+k} \pi_i^2 + \frac{1}{2} (-1 + \mathbb{T}) \mathbb{T} \in \mathbf{p}_{2+k}^2 \pi_i^2 + \\ &\quad \mathfrak{i} \mathbb{T} \mathbf{p}_{2+j} \pi_j - \mathfrak{i} \mathbb{T} \in \mathbf{p}_{2+j} \pi_j - \mathfrak{i} (-1 + \mathbb{T}) \mathbf{p}_{2+k} \pi_j + \\ &\quad \mathfrak{i} (-1 + 2\mathbb{T}) \in \mathbf{p}_{2+k} \pi_j + \mathbb{T}^3 \in \mathbf{p}_{2+i} \mathbf{p}_{2+j} \pi_i \pi_j - \\ &\quad \mathbb{T}^3 \in \mathbf{p}_{2+j}^2 \pi_i \pi_j - (-1 + \mathbb{T}) \mathbb{T}^2 \in \mathbf{p}_{2+i} \mathbf{p}_{2+k} \pi_i \pi_j + \\ &\quad (-1 + \mathbb{T})^2 \mathbb{T} \in \mathbf{p}_{2+j} \mathbf{p}_{2+k} \pi_i \pi_j + (-1 + \mathbb{T}) \mathbb{T} \in \mathbf{p}_{2+k}^2 \pi_i \pi_j - \\ &\quad \frac{1}{2} (-1 + \mathbb{T}) \mathbb{T} \in \mathbf{p}_{2+j} \mathbf{p}_{2+k} \pi_j^2 + \frac{1}{2} (-1 + \mathbb{T}) \mathbb{T} \in \mathbf{p}_{2+k}^2 \pi_j^2 + \\ &\quad \mathfrak{i} \mathbf{p}_{2+k} \pi_k - 2 \mathfrak{i} \in \mathbf{p}_{2+k} \pi_k + \mathbb{T}^2 \in \mathbf{p}_{2+i} \mathbf{p}_{2+k} \pi_i \pi_k - \\ &\quad (-1 + \mathbb{T}) \mathbb{T} \in \mathbf{p}_{2+j} \mathbf{p}_{2+k} \pi_i \pi_k - \mathbb{T} \in \mathbf{p}_{2+k}^2 \pi_i \pi_k + \\ &\quad \left. \mathbb{T} \in \mathbf{p}_{2+j} \mathbf{p}_{2+k} \pi_j \pi_k - \mathbb{T} \in \mathbf{p}_{2+k}^2 \pi_j \pi_k \right] \end{aligned}$$

Invariance under the other Reidemeister moves is proven in a similar way. See IType.nb at [ωεβ/ap](#).

Where is it coming from? The most honest answer is “we don’t know” (and *that’s good!*). The second most, “undetermined coefficients for an ansatz that made sense”. The ansatz comes from the following principles / earlier work:

Morphisms have generating functions. Indeed, there is an isomorphism

$$\mathcal{G}: \text{Hom}(\mathbb{Q}[x_i], \mathbb{Q}[y_j]) \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}[y_j][[\xi_i]],$$

and by PBW, many relevant spaces are polynomial rings, though only as vector spaces.

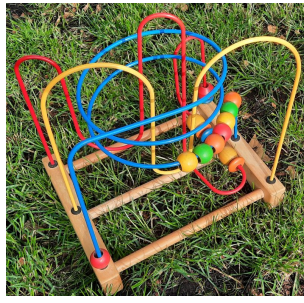
Composition is integration. Indeed, if $f \in \text{Hom}(\mathbb{Q}[x_i], \mathbb{Q}[y_j])$ and $g \in \text{Hom}(\mathbb{Q}[y_j], \mathbb{Q}[z_k])$, then

$$\mathcal{G}(g \circ f) = \int e^{-y \cdot \eta} f g \, dy \, d\eta$$

Use universal invariants. These take values in a universal enveloping algebra (misschien kwantized), and thus they are expressible as long compositions of generating functions. See [La, Oh].

“Solvable approximation” \rightsquigarrow perturbed Gaussians. Let \mathfrak{g} be a semisimple Lie algebra, let \mathfrak{h} be its Cartan subalgebra, and let \mathfrak{b}^u and \mathfrak{b}^l be its upper and lower Borel subalgebras. Then \mathfrak{b}^u has a bracket β , and as the dual of \mathfrak{b}^l it also has a cobracket δ , and in fact, $\mathfrak{g} \oplus \mathfrak{h} \equiv \text{Double}(\mathfrak{b}^u, \beta, \delta)$. Let $\mathfrak{g}_\epsilon^+ := \text{Double}(\mathfrak{b}^u, \beta, \epsilon\delta) \pmod{\epsilon^{d+1}}$ it is solvable for any d . Then by [BV3, BN1] (in the case of $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{sl}_2$) all the interesting tensors of $\mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g}_\epsilon^+)$ (quantized or not) are perturbed Gaussian with perturbation parameter ϵ with with understood bounds on the degrees of the perturbations.

The Philosophy Corner. “Universal invariants”, valued in universal enveloping algebra (possibly quantized) rather than in representations thereof, are a priori better than the representation theoretic ones. They are compatible with strand doubling (the Hopf coproduct), and as the knot genus and the ribbon property for knots are expressible in terms of strand doubling, universal invariants stand a chance to say something about these properties. Indeed, they sometimes do! See e.g. [BN2, GK, LV, BG]. Representation theoretic invariants don’t do that!



There’s more! To get sl_2 invariants mod ϵ^3 , add the following to $L(X_{ij}^+)$, $L(X_{ij}^-)$, and $L(C_i^\varphi)$, respectively (and see More.nb at [\omega\epsilon\beta/ap](#) for the verifications):

$$\odot \epsilon^2 r_2[1, i, j]$$

$$\square \frac{1}{12} \epsilon^2 \left(-6 p_i x_i + 6 p_j x_i - 3 (-1 + 3 T) p_i p_j x_i^2 + 3 (-1 + 3 T) p_j^2 x_i^2 + 4 (-1 + T) p_i^2 p_j x_i^3 - 2 (-1 + T) (5 + T) p_i p_j^2 x_i^3 + 2 (-1 + T) (3 + T) p_j^3 x_i^3 + 18 p_i p_j x_i x_j - 18 p_j^2 x_i x_j - 6 p_i^2 p_j x_i^2 x_j + 6 (2 + T) p_i p_j^2 x_i^2 x_j - 6 (1 + T) p_j^3 x_i^2 x_j - 6 p_i p_j^2 x_i x_j^2 + 6 p_j^3 x_i x_j^2 \right)$$

$$\odot \epsilon^2 r_2[-1, i, j]$$

$$\square \frac{1}{12 T^2} \epsilon^2 \left(-6 T^2 p_i x_i + 6 T^2 p_j x_i + 3 (-3 + T) T p_i p_j x_i^2 - 3 (-3 + T) T p_j^2 x_i^2 - 4 (-1 + T) T p_i^2 p_j x_i^3 + 2 (-1 + T) (1 + 5 T) p_i p_j^2 x_i^3 - 2 (-1 + T) (1 + 3 T) p_j^3 x_i^3 + 18 T^2 p_i p_j x_i x_j - 18 T^2 p_j^2 x_i x_j - 6 T^2 p_i^2 p_j x_i^2 x_j + 6 T (1 + 2 T) p_i p_j^2 x_i^2 x_j - 6 T (1 + T) p_j^3 x_i^2 x_j - 6 T^2 p_i p_j^2 x_i x_j^2 + 6 T^2 p_j^3 x_i x_j^2 \right)$$

$$\odot \epsilon^2 \gamma_2[\varphi, i]$$

$$\square -\frac{1}{2} \epsilon^2 \varphi^2 p_i x_i$$

The sl_2 formulas mod ϵ^4 are in the last page of the handout of [BN3].

We are very close to having some sl_3 formulas, but they are certainly not ready for prime time.

References.

- [BN1] D. Bar-Natan, *Everything around sl_{2+}^ϵ is DoPeGDO. So what?*, talk given in “Quantum Topology and Hyperbolic Geometry Conference”, Da Nang, Vietnam, May 2019. Handout and video at [\omega\epsilon\beta/DPG](#).
- [BN2] D. Bar-Natan, *Algebraic Knot Theory*, talk given in Sydney, September 2019. Handout and video at [\omega\epsilon\beta/AKT](#).
- [BN3] D. Bar-Natan, *Cars, Interchanges, Traffic Counters, and some Pretty Darned Good Knot Invariants*, talk given in “Using Quantum Invariants to do Interesting Topology”, Oaxaca, Mexico, October 2022. Handout and video at [\omega\epsilon\beta/Cars](#).

- [BV1] D. Bar-Natan and R. van der Veen, *A Polynomial Time Knot Polynomial*, Proc. Amer. Math. Soc. **147** (2019) 377–397, [arXiv:1708.04853](#).
- [BV2] D. Bar-Natan and R. van der Veen, *A Perturbed Alexander Invariant*, to appear in Quantum Topology, [\omega\epsilon\beta/APAI](#).
- [BV3] D. Bar-Natan and R. van der Veen, *Perturbed Gaussian Generating Functions for Universal Knot Invariants*, [arXiv:2109.02057](#).
- [BG] J. Becerra Garrido, *Universal Quantum Knot Invariants*, Ph.D. thesis, University of Groningen, [\omega\epsilon\beta/BG](#).
- [GK] S. Garoufalidis and R. Kashaev, *Multivariable Knot Polynomials from Braided Hopf Algebras with Automorphisms*, [arXiv:2311.11528](#).
- [La] R. J. Lawrence, *Universal Link Invariants using Quantum Groups*, Proc. XVII Int. Conf. on Diff. Geom. Methods in Theor. Phys., Chester, England, August 1988. World Scientific (1989) 55–63.
- [LV] D. López Neumann and R. van der Veen, *Genus Bounds from Unrolled Quantum Groups at Roots of Unity*, [arXiv:2312.02070](#).
- [Oh] T. Ohtsuki, *Quantum Invariants*, Series on Knots and Everything **29**, World Scientific 2002.
- [Ov] A. Overbay, *Perturbative Expansion of the Colored Jones Polynomial*, Ph.D. thesis, University of North Carolina, August 2013, [\omega\epsilon\beta/Ov](#).
- [R1] 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](#).
- [R2] 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](#).
- [R3] L. Rozansky, *A Universal $U(1)$ -RCC Invariant of Links and Rationality Conjecture*, [arXiv:math/0201139](#).

Acknowledgement. This work was supported by NSERC grant RGPIN-2018-04350 and by the Chu Family Foundation (NYC).
Disclaimer. It’s fun, but not fully ready.