

Facts and Dreams About v-Knots and Etingof-Kazhdan, 1

This is an overview with too many and not enough details. I apologize.

[http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Talks/SwissKnots-1105/Foots & refs on PDF version, page 3.](http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Talks/SwissKnots-1105/Foots&refs%20on%20PDF%20version,%20page%203)

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" $\mathcal{A}_I(K) := \overline{FC}/\langle \ker \mu_{11} \rangle$ of K surjects using μ on $\text{gr } K$.

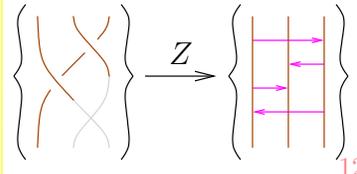


Peter Lee

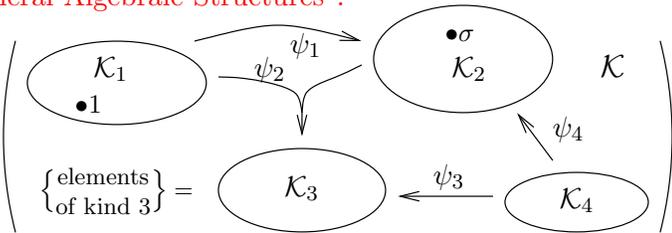
The Prized Object. A "homomorphic \mathcal{A} -expansion": a homomorphic filtered $Z: K \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ for which $\text{gr } Z: \text{gr } K \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ inverts μ .

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

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.



General Algebraic Structures¹.



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

All still works!

Example 3. Quandle: a set K with an op \wedge s.t.

$$1 \wedge x = 1, \quad x \wedge 1 = x = x \wedge x, \quad (\text{appetizers})$$

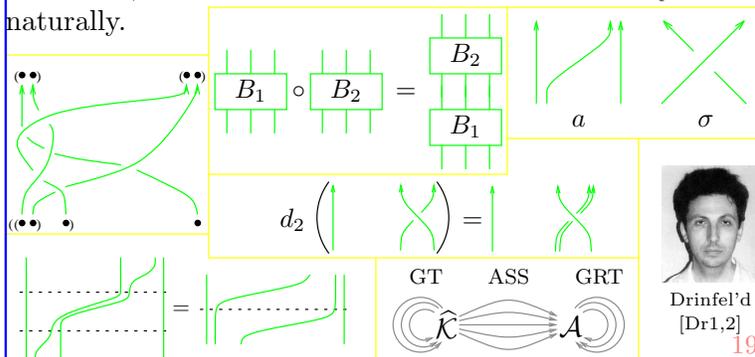
$$(x \wedge y) \wedge z = (x \wedge z) \wedge (y \wedge z). \quad (\text{main})$$

$\mathcal{A}(K)$ is a graded Leibniz² 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:

$$(\bar{x} \wedge \bar{y}) \wedge \bar{z} = (\bar{x} \wedge \bar{z}) \wedge \bar{y} + \bar{x} \wedge (\bar{y} \wedge \bar{z}).$$

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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 story³ arises naturally.



Drinfel'd [Dr1,2]

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Example 1.



T. Kohno

$$K = \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \text{braids} \\ \text{with crossings} \end{array} \right\rangle \quad I = \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \text{crossing} \\ \text{relations} \end{array} \right\rangle$$

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

$$(I^m/I^{m+1})^* = \mathcal{V}_m/\mathcal{V}_{m-1} \quad C = \langle t^{ij} | t^{ij} = t^{ji} \rangle = \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \text{parallel strands} \end{array} \right\rangle$$

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

$$\mathcal{A} = A_n = \left(\begin{array}{c} \text{horizontal chord dia-} \\ \text{grams mod 4T} \end{array} \right) = \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \text{horizontal strands} \end{array} \right\rangle / 4T$$

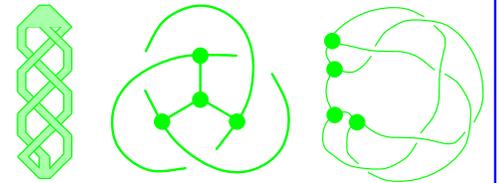
Z : universal finite type invariant, the Kontsevich integral.

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.

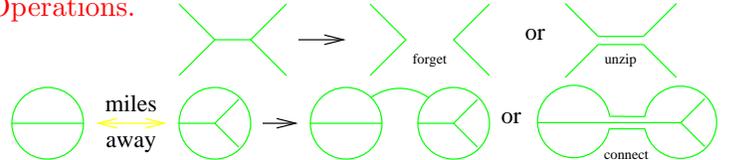
Example 5 - Knotted Trivalent Graphs.



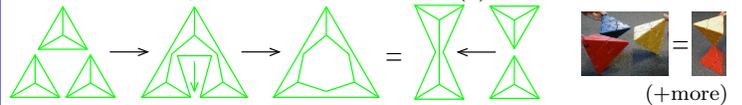
D. Thurston [Th]



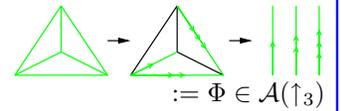
Operations.



Presentation. KTG is generated by ribbon twists and the tetrahedron Δ , modulo the relation(s):

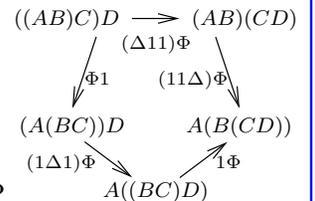


Claim. With $\Phi := Z(\Delta)$, the above relation becomes equivalent to the Drinfel'd's pentagon of the theory of quasi-Hopf algebras.



A $U(\mathfrak{g})$ -Associator:

$$(AB)C \xrightarrow{\Phi \in U(\mathfrak{g})^{\otimes 3}} A(BC)$$



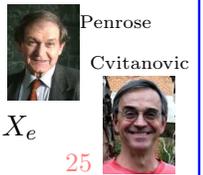
satisfying the "pentagon",

$$\Phi \cdot (1\Delta 1)\Phi \cdot 1\Phi = (\Delta 11)\Phi \cdot (11\Delta)\Phi$$

$$\mathcal{A}(\uparrow_2) := \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \text{braids with crossings} \end{array} \right\rangle / \text{AS, } \left(\text{deg} = \frac{1}{2} \# \{ \text{trivalent vertices} \} \right)$$

Given a metrized $\mathfrak{g} = \langle X_a \rangle$

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

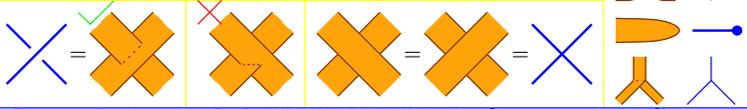


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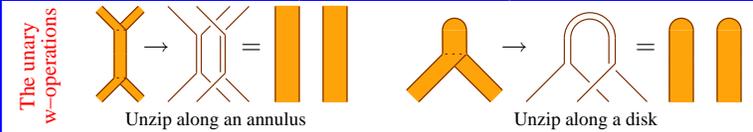
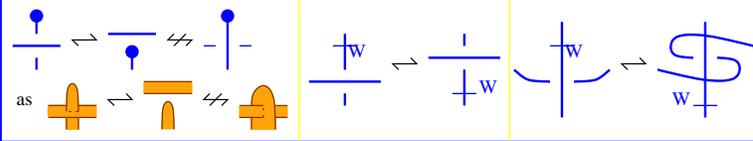
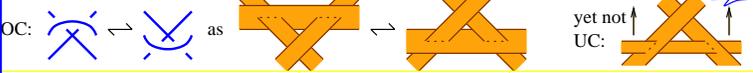
Facts and Dreams About v-Knots and Etingof-Kazhdan, 2

Example 6 - Ribbon 2-Knots.

Also, "movies of flying rings".



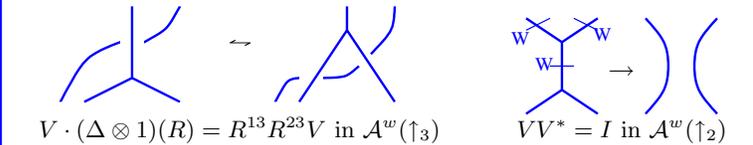
The w-relations include R234, VR1234, D, Overcrossings Commute (OC) but not UC:



Trivalent w-Tangles. 30

$$wTT = PA \left\langle \begin{array}{c} w\text{-} \\ \text{generators} \end{array} \middle| \begin{array}{c} w\text{-} \\ \text{relations} \end{array} \middle| \begin{array}{c} \text{unary } w\text{-} \\ \text{operations} \end{array} \right\rangle = CA \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \text{same} \\ w/o \times \end{array} \right\rangle$$

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 $a \in \mathfrak{tt}_1$ such that $F(x+y) = \log e^x e^y$ and $jF = a(x) + a(y) - a(\log e^x e^y)$. 33

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

The Main Example.

$$vTT = PA \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \text{R234, VR234, D,} \\ \text{yet not UC, OC} \end{array} \middle| \text{unzips} \right\rangle = \overline{CA} \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \text{same} \\ w/o \times \end{array} \right\rangle$$

The Polyak-Ohtsuki Description of \mathcal{A}^v [Po]. 36

$$\mathcal{A}^v \simeq \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \text{acyclic only} \\ w/\text{similar STU, VI} \end{array} \middle| \begin{array}{c} \text{AS,} \\ \text{or} \\ \text{or} \\ \text{or} \\ \text{or} \end{array} \right\rangle = 0 = \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \text{or} \\ \text{or} \\ \text{or} \\ \text{or} \end{array} \right\rangle$$

\mathcal{A}^v pairs with Lie bialgebras. Let \mathfrak{g}_+ be a Lie bialgebra with basis X_a , bracket $[\cdot, \cdot]$, cobracket δ , dual $\mathfrak{g}_- = \mathfrak{g}_+^*$, dual basis X^a for \mathfrak{g}_- , double $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}_+ \oplus \mathfrak{g}_-$, structure constants $[X_a, X_b] = \sum c_{ab}^c X_c$ and co-structure constants $\delta(X_a) = \sum c_a^{bc} X_b \otimes X_c$. Then

$$\sum_{a,b,c,d,e,f=1}^{\dim \mathfrak{g}} b_{de}^c b_a^c X_a X^d X_f \otimes X_b X^e X^f \in \mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g})^{\otimes 2}$$

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

www.katlas.org The Knot Atlas

Forbidden Theorem [EK, Ha, ?]. There exists a homomorphic expansion Z for vTT.

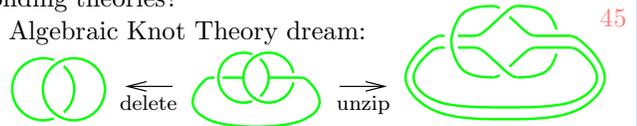
Why Forbidden (to me)?

- 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?

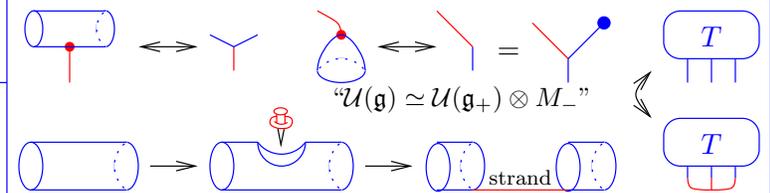
- A gateway into the forbidden territory of "quantum groups".
- Abstractly more pleasing: We study the things, and not just their representations.
- \mathcal{A}^v is sometimes easier than \mathcal{A}^u : Alexander, say, arises easily from the 2D Lie algebra⁴.
- Potentially, \mathcal{A}^v has many more "internal quotients" than there are Lie bialgebras. What are they and what are the corresponding theories?
- My old⁵ Algebraic Knot Theory dream:



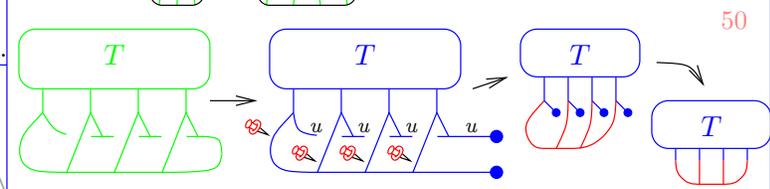
$V \rightarrow \Phi^1\text{-loop after [AT].$ "cut and cap" is well-defined(!) on \mathcal{K}^u



$\Phi \rightarrow V$ after [AET]. In \mathcal{K}^w allow tubes and strands and tube-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 Φ , can write a formula for V). With T any classical tangle, esp. $\langle \text{or} \rangle$ or $\langle \text{or} \rangle$, consider the "sled"



From the \mathfrak{sl}_2 Lie Algebra to the Alexander Polynomial and Beyond

18 Computations

19 Computations

20 Computations

21 Computations

22 Computations

23 Computations

24 Computations

25 Computations

26 Computations

27 Computations

28 Computations

29 Computations

30 Computations

31 Computations

32 Computations

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37 Computations

38 Computations

39 Computations

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41 Computations

42 Computations

43 Computations

44 Computations

45 Computations

46 Computations

47 Computations

48 Computations

49 Computations

50 Computations

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].

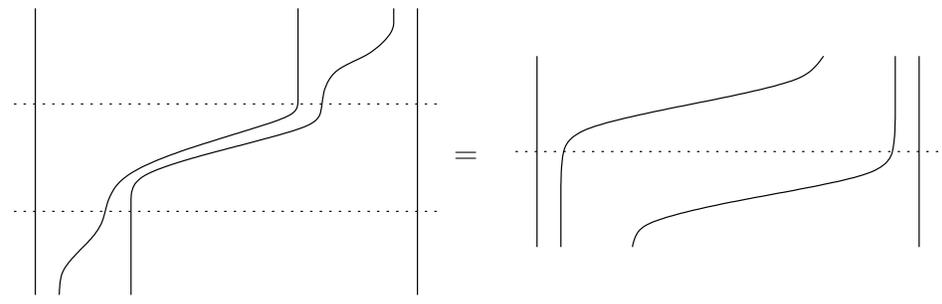
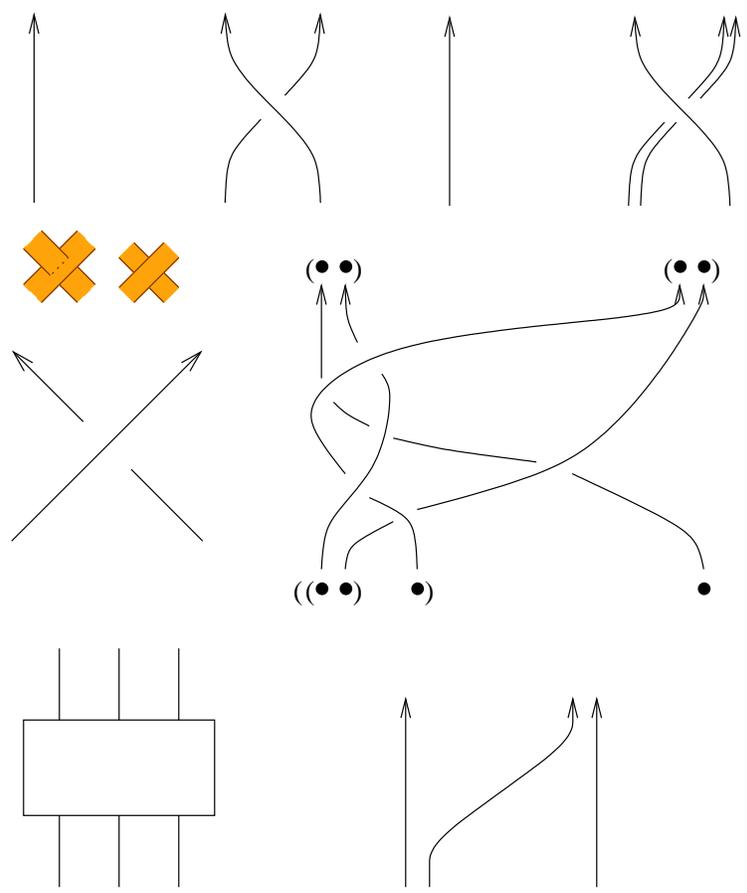
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Plan

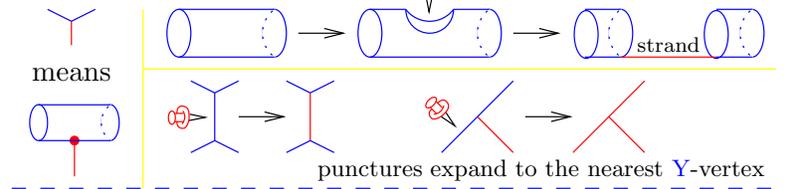
1. (8 minutes) The Peter Lee setup for (K, I) , “all interesting graded equations arise in this way”.
2. (3 minutes) Example: the pure braid group (mention PvB , too).
3. (3 minutes) Generalized algebraic structures.
4. (1 minute) Example: quandles.
5. (4 minutes) Example: parenthesized braids and horizontal 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.

Scratch Work

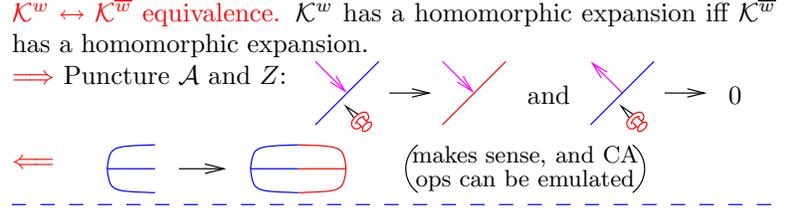


$\Phi \rightarrow V$ after [AET]. The generators of \mathcal{K}^w can be written in terms of the generators of \mathcal{K}^u (i.e., given Φ , can write a formula for V).

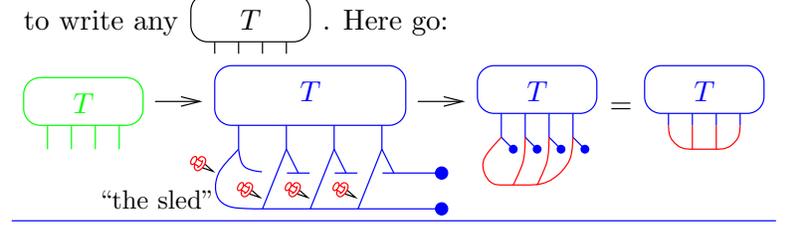
Introduce "Punctures".



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



to write any T . Here go:



"the sled"