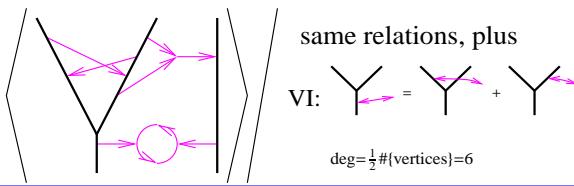


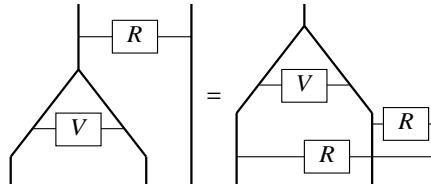
w-Jacobi diagrams and  $\mathcal{A}^w(Y \uparrow) \cong \mathcal{A}^w(\uparrow\uparrow)$  is



Knot-Theoretic statement (simplified). There exists a homomorphic expansion  $Z$  for trivalent w-tangles. In particular,  $Z$  should respect R4.



Diagrammatic statement (simplified). Let  $R = \exp \uparrow \in \mathcal{A}^w(\uparrow\uparrow)$ . There exist  $V \in \mathcal{A}^w(\uparrow\uparrow)$  so that:



Algebraic statement (simplified). With  $r \in g^* \otimes g$  the identity element and with  $R = e^r \in \hat{\mathcal{U}}(Ig) \otimes \hat{\mathcal{U}}(g)$  there exist  $V \in \hat{\mathcal{U}}(Ig)^{\otimes 2}$  so that  $V(\Delta \otimes 1)(R) = R^{13}R^{23}V$  in  $\hat{\mathcal{U}}(Ig)^{\otimes 2} \otimes \hat{\mathcal{U}}(g)$

Unitary statement (simplified). There exists a unitary tangential differential operator  $V$  defined on  $\text{Fun}(g_x \times g_y)$  so that  $V e^{x+y} = e^x e^y V$  (allowing  $\hat{\mathcal{U}}(g)$ -valued functions)

Group-Algebra statement (simplified). For every  $\phi, \psi \in \text{Fun}(g)^G$  (with small support), the following holds in  $\hat{\mathcal{U}}(g)$ :

$$\iint_{g \times g} \phi(x)\psi(y)e^{x+y} = \iint_{g \times g} \phi(x)\psi(y)e^x e^y. \quad (\text{shhh, this is Duflo})$$

Unitary  $\Rightarrow$  Group-Algebra.  $\iint e^{x+y}\phi(x)\psi(y) = \langle 1, e^{x+y}\phi(x)\psi(y) \rangle = \langle V1, Ve^{x+y}\phi(x)\psi(y) \rangle = \langle 1, e^x e^y V\phi(x)\psi(y) \rangle = \langle 1, e^x e^y \phi(x)\psi(y) \rangle = \iint e^x e^y \phi(x)\psi(y).$

Convolutions statement (Kashiwara-Vergne, simplified). Convolutions of invariant functions on a Lie group agree with convolutions of invariant functions on its Lie algebra. More accurately, let  $G$  be a finite dimensional Lie group and let  $g$  be its Lie algebra, and let  $\Phi : \text{Fun}(G) \rightarrow \text{Fun}(g)$  be given by  $\Phi(f)(x) := f(\exp x)$ . Then if  $f, g \in \text{Fun}(G)$  are Ad-invariant and supported near the identity, then  $\Phi(f) \star \Phi(g) = \Phi(f \star g)$ .

Convolutions and Group Algebras (ignoring all Jacobians). If  $G$  is finite,  $A$  is an algebra,  $\tau : G \rightarrow A$  is multiplicative then  $(\text{Fun}(G), \star) \rightarrow (A, \cdot)$  via  $L : f \mapsto \sum f(a)\tau(a)$ . For Lie  $(G, g)$ ,

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (g, +) \ni x & \xrightarrow{\tau_0=\exp_S} & e^x \in \hat{\mathcal{S}}(g) \\ \downarrow \exp_G & \searrow \exp_U & \downarrow \chi \\ (G, \cdot) \ni e^x & \xrightarrow{\tau_1} & e^x \in \hat{\mathcal{U}}(g) \end{array} \quad \text{so} \quad \begin{array}{ccc} \text{Fun}(g) & \xrightarrow{L_0} & \hat{\mathcal{S}}(g) \\ \downarrow \Phi^{-1} & & \downarrow \chi \\ \text{Fun}(G) & \xrightarrow{L_1} & \hat{\mathcal{U}}(g) \end{array}$$

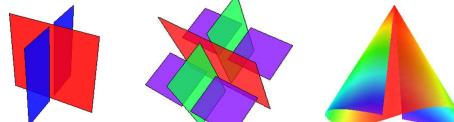
with  $L_0\psi = \int \psi(x)e^x dx \in \hat{\mathcal{S}}(g)$  and  $L_1\Phi^{-1}\psi = \int \psi(x)e^x \in \hat{\mathcal{U}}(g)$ . Given  $\psi_i \in \text{Fun}(g)$  compare  $\Phi^{-1}(\psi_1) \star \Phi^{-1}(\psi_2)$  and  $\Phi^{-1}(\psi_1 \star \psi_2)$  in  $\hat{\mathcal{U}}(g)$ :

$$\star \text{ in } G : \iint \psi_1(x)\psi_2(y)e^x e^y \quad \star \text{ in } g : \iint \psi_1(x)\psi_2(y)e^{x+y}$$

$u \leftrightarrow w$  The diagram on the right explains the relationship between associators and solutions of the Kashiwara-Vergne problem.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} KG & \xrightarrow{a} & wTF \\ \downarrow Z^u & & \downarrow Z^w \\ \mathcal{A}^u & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & \mathcal{A}^w \end{array}$$

The Full  
2-Knot Story



Question. Does it all extend to arbitrary 2-knots (not necessarily “simple”)? To arbitrary codimension-2 knots?

BF Following [CR].  $A \in \Omega^1(M = \mathbb{R}^4, g)$ ,  $B \in \Omega^2(M, g^*)$ ,

$$S(A, B) := \int_M \langle B, F_A \rangle.$$



Rossi

With  $\kappa : (S = \mathbb{R}^2) \rightarrow M$ ,  $\beta \in \Omega^0(S, g)$ ,  $\alpha \in \Omega^1(S, g^*)$ , set

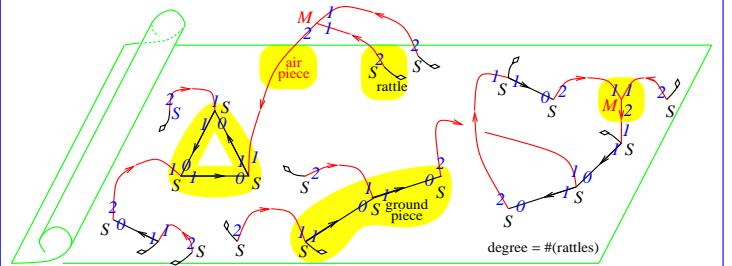
$$O(A, B, \kappa) := \int \mathcal{D}\beta \mathcal{D}\alpha \exp \left( \frac{i}{\hbar} \int_S \langle \beta, d_{\kappa^* A} \alpha + \kappa^* B \rangle \right).$$

The BF Feynman Rules. For an edge  $e$ , let  $\Phi_e$  be its direction, in  $S^3$  or  $S^1$ . Let  $\omega_3$  and  $\omega_1$  be volume forms on  $S^3$  and  $S^1$ . Then

$$Z_{BF} = \sum_{\substack{\text{diagrams} \\ D}} \frac{[D]}{|\text{Aut}(D)|} \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \cdots \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^4} \cdots \int_{\mathbb{R}^4} \prod_{e \in D} \Phi_e^* \omega_3 \prod_{\substack{\text{red} \\ e \in D}} \Phi_e^* \omega_1 \prod_{\substack{\text{black} \\ e \in D}}$$

(modulo some IHX-like relations).

See also [Wa]



Issues. • Signs don't quite work out, and BF seems to reproduce only “half” of the wheels invariant on simple 2-knots.

- There are many more configuration space integrals than BF Feynman diagrams and than just trees and wheels.
- I don't know how to define / analyze “finite type” for general 2-knots.
- I don't know how to reduce  $Z_{BF}$  to combinatorics / algebra.

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“God created the knots, all else in topology is the work of mortals.”

Leopold Kronecker (modified)

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