


Convolutions on Lie Groups and Lie Algebras and Ribbon 2-Knots

Dror Bar-Natan, Paris June 2009, <http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Talks/Paris-0906>

Disclaimer:
Rough edges remain!

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

Convolutions statement (Kashiwara-Vergne). 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 \mathfrak{g} be its Lie algebra, let $j : \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be the Jacobian of the exponential map $\exp : \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow G$, and let $\Phi : \text{Fun}(G) \rightarrow \text{Fun}(\mathfrak{g})$ be given by $\Phi(f)(x) := j^{1/2}(x)f(\exp x)$. Then if $f, g \in \text{Fun}(G)$ are Ad-invariant and supported near the identity, then

$$\Phi(f) \star \Phi(g) = \Phi(f \star g).$$

Group-Algebra statement. There exists $\omega^2 \in \text{Fun}(\mathfrak{g})^G$ so that for every $\phi, \psi \in \text{Fun}(\mathfrak{g})^G$ (with small support), the following holds in $\hat{\mathcal{U}}(\mathfrak{g})$:

$$\iint_{\mathfrak{g} \times \mathfrak{g}} \phi(x)\psi(y)\omega_{x+y}^2 e^{x+y} = \iint_{\mathfrak{g} \times \mathfrak{g}} \phi(x)\psi(y)\omega_x^2 \omega_y^2 e^x e^y. \quad (\text{shhh, } \omega^2 = j^{1/2})$$

(shhh, this is Duflo)

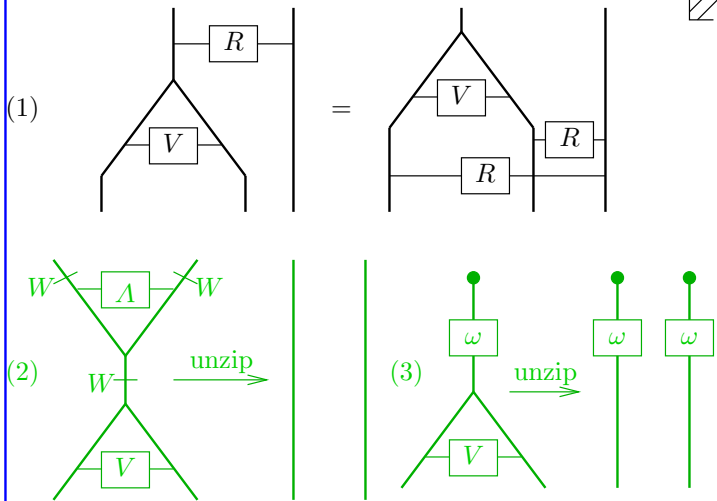
Unitary statement. There exists $\omega \in \text{Fun}(\mathfrak{g})^G$ and an (infinite order) tangential differential operator V defined on $\text{Fun}(\mathfrak{g}_x \times \mathfrak{g}_y)$ so that

- (1) $V e^{x+y} = \hat{e}^x \hat{e}^y V$ (allowing $\hat{\mathcal{U}}(\mathfrak{g})$ -valued functions)
- (2) $V V^* = I$ (3) $V \omega_{x+y} = \omega_x \omega_y$

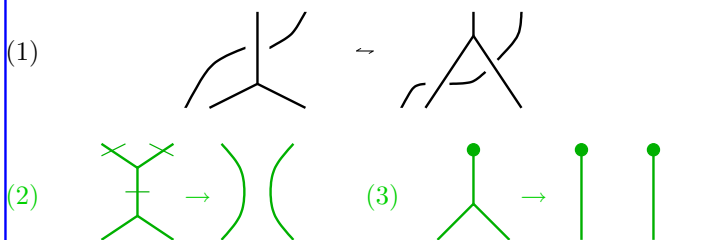
Algebraic statement. With $I_{\mathfrak{g}} := \mathfrak{g}^* \times \mathfrak{g}$, with $c : \hat{\mathcal{U}}(I_{\mathfrak{g}}) \rightarrow \hat{\mathcal{U}}(\mathfrak{g})/\hat{\mathcal{U}}(\mathfrak{g}) = \hat{S}(\mathfrak{g}^*)$ the obvious projection, with S the antipode of $\hat{\mathcal{U}}(I_{\mathfrak{g}})$, with W the automorphism of $\hat{\mathcal{U}}(I_{\mathfrak{g}})$ induced by flipping the sign of \mathfrak{g}^* , with $r \in \mathfrak{g}^* \otimes \mathfrak{g}$ the identity element and with $R = e^r \in \hat{\mathcal{U}}(I_{\mathfrak{g}}) \otimes \hat{\mathcal{U}}(\mathfrak{g})$ there exist $\omega \in \hat{S}(\mathfrak{g}^*)$ and $V \in \hat{\mathcal{U}}(I_{\mathfrak{g}})^{\otimes 2}$ so that

- (1) $V(\Delta \otimes 1)(R) = R^{13} R^{23} V$ in $\hat{\mathcal{U}}(I_{\mathfrak{g}})^{\otimes 2} \otimes \hat{\mathcal{U}}(\mathfrak{g})$
- (2) $V \cdot S W V = 1$ (3) $(c \otimes c)(V \Delta(\omega)) = \omega \otimes \omega$

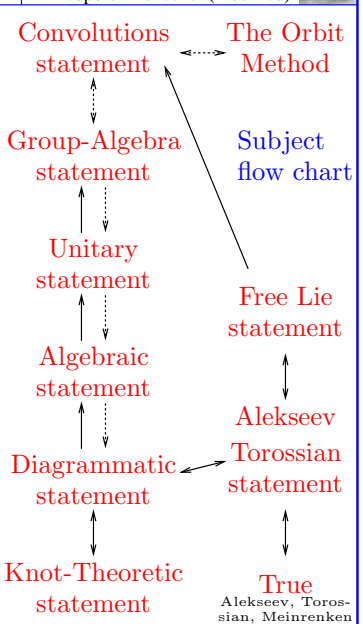
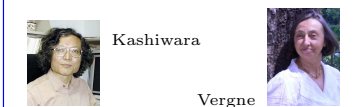
Diagrammatic statement. Let $R = \exp \uparrow \uparrow \in \mathcal{A}^w(\uparrow \uparrow)$. There exist $\omega \in \mathcal{A}^w(\uparrow)$ and $V \in \mathcal{A}^w(\uparrow \uparrow)$ so that



Knot-Theoretic statement. There exists a homomorphic expansion Z for trivalent w-tangles. In particular, Z should respect $R4$ and intertwine annulus and disk unzips:



The Bigger Picture...



Free Lie statement (Kashiwara-Vergne). There exist convergent Lie series F and G so that with $z = \log e^x e^y$

$$x + y - \log e^y e^x = (1 - e^{-\text{ad } x})F + (e^{\text{ad } y} - 1)G$$

$$\text{tr}(\text{ad } x)\partial_x F + \text{tr}(\text{ad } y)\partial_y G = \frac{1}{2} \text{tr} \left(\frac{\text{ad } x}{e^{\text{ad } x} - 1} + \frac{\text{ad } y}{e^{\text{ad } y} - 1} - \frac{\text{ad } z}{e^{\text{ad } z} - 1} - 1 \right)$$

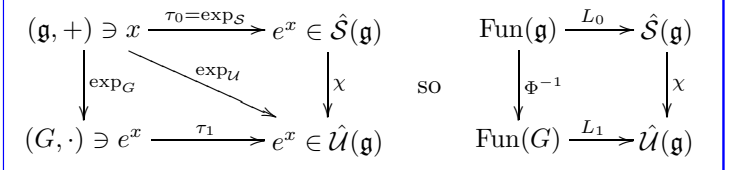
Alekseev-Torossian statement. There is an element $F \in \text{TAut}_2$ with

$$F(x + y) = \log e^x e^y$$

and $j(F) \in \text{im } \delta \subset \mathfrak{tr}_2$, where for $a \in \mathfrak{tr}_1$, $\delta(a) := a(x) + a(y) - a(\log e^x e^y)$.



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



with $L_0 \psi = \int \psi(x) e^x dx \in \hat{S}(\mathfrak{g})$ and $L_1 \Phi^{-1} \psi = \int \psi(x) e^x \in \hat{\mathcal{U}}(\mathfrak{g})$. Given $\psi_i \in \text{Fun}(\mathfrak{g})$ compare $\Phi^{-1}(\psi_1) \star \Phi^{-1}(\psi_2)$ and $\Phi^{-1}(\psi_1 \star \psi_2)$ in $\hat{\mathcal{U}}(\mathfrak{g})$: (shhh, $L_{0/1}$ are "Laplace transforms")

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

Unitary \implies Group-Algebra.

$$\iint \omega_{x+y}^2 e^{x+y} \phi(x)\psi(y) = \langle \omega_{x+y}, \omega_{x+y} e^{x+y} \phi(x)\psi(y) \rangle = \langle V \omega_{x+y}, V e^{x+y} \phi(x)\psi(y) \omega_{x+y} \rangle = \langle \omega_x \omega_y, e^x e^y V \phi(x)\psi(y) \omega_{x+y} \rangle = \langle \omega_x \omega_y, e^x e^y \phi(x)\psi(y) \omega_x \omega_y \rangle = \iint \omega_x^2 \omega_y^2 e^x e^y \phi(x)\psi(y).$$

Unitary \iff Algebraic. The key is to interpret $\hat{\mathcal{U}}(I_{\mathfrak{g}})$ as tangential differential operators on $\text{Fun}(\mathfrak{g})$:

- $\varphi \in \mathfrak{g}^*$ becomes a multiplication operator.
- $x \in \mathfrak{g}$ becomes a tangential derivation, in the direction of the action of $\text{ad } x$: $(x\varphi)(y) := \varphi([x, y])$.
- $c : \hat{\mathcal{U}}(I_{\mathfrak{g}}) \rightarrow \hat{\mathcal{U}}(I_{\mathfrak{g}})/\hat{\mathcal{U}}(\mathfrak{g}) = \hat{S}(\mathfrak{g}^*)$ is "the constant term".

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What are w-Trivalent Tangles?

(PA := Planar Algebra)

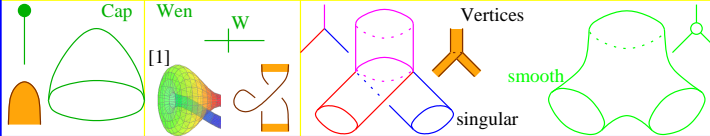
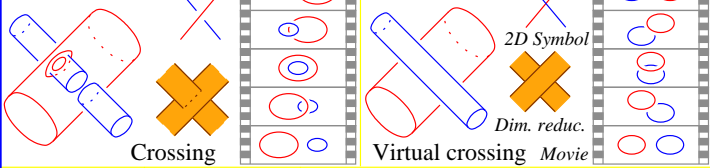
$$\{\text{knots} \ \& \ \text{links}\} = \text{PA} \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \diagup \diagdown \\ \diagdown \diagup \end{array} \middle| R123 : \begin{array}{c} \bigcirc \\ \bigcirc \\ \bigcirc \end{array} \right\rangle_{0 \text{ legs}}$$

$$\{\text{trivalent tangles}\} = \text{PA} \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \diagup \diagdown \\ \diagdown \diagup \end{array} \middle| R23, R4 : \begin{array}{c} \bigcirc \\ \bigcirc \\ \bigcirc \end{array} \right\rangle$$

wTT=

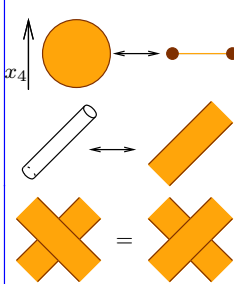
$$\{\text{trivalent w-tangles}\} = \text{PA} \left\langle \begin{array}{c} \text{w-} \\ \text{generators} \end{array} \middle| \begin{array}{c} \text{w-} \\ \text{relations} \end{array} \middle| \begin{array}{c} \text{unary w-} \\ \text{operations} \end{array} \right\rangle$$

The w-generators.



A Ribbon 2-Knot is a surface S embedded in \mathbb{R}^4 that bounds an immersed handlebody B , with only "ribbon singularities"; a ribbon singularity is a disk D of transverse double points, whose preimages in B are a disk D_1 in the interior of B and a disk D_2 with $D_2 \cap \partial B = \partial D_2$, modulo isotopies of S alone.

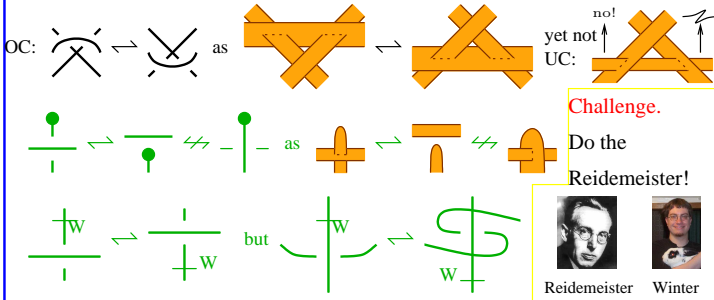
Dimensional reduction



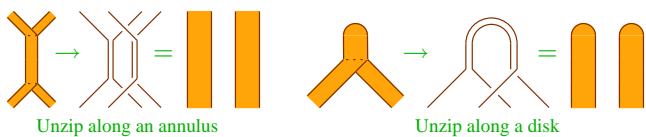
Example.



The w-relations include R234, VR1234, M, Overcrossings Commute (OC) but not UC, $W^2 = 1$, and funny interactions between the wen and the cap and over- and under-crossings:



The unary w-operations.



Homomorphic expansions for a filtered algebraic structure \mathcal{K} :

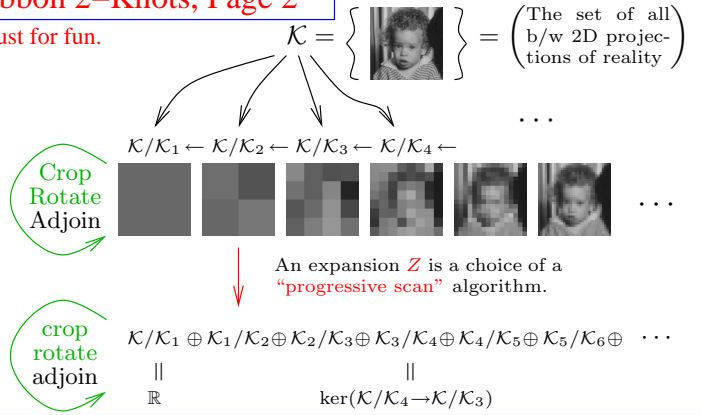
$$\text{ops} \subset \mathcal{K} = \mathcal{K}_0 \supset \mathcal{K}_1 \supset \mathcal{K}_2 \supset \mathcal{K}_3 \supset \dots$$

$$\text{ops} \subset \text{gr } \mathcal{K} := \mathcal{K}_0/\mathcal{K}_1 \oplus \mathcal{K}_1/\mathcal{K}_2 \oplus \mathcal{K}_2/\mathcal{K}_3 \oplus \mathcal{K}_3/\mathcal{K}_4 \oplus \dots$$

An expansion is a filtration respecting $Z : \mathcal{K} \rightarrow \text{gr } \mathcal{K}$ that "covers" the identity on $\text{gr } \mathcal{K}$. A homomorphic expansion is an expansion that respects all relevant "extra" operations.

[1] <http://qlink.queensu.ca/~4lb11/interesting.html>

Just for fun.



Filtered algebraic structures are cheap and plenty. In any \mathcal{K} , allow formal linear combinations, let \mathcal{K}_1 be the ideal generated by differences (the "augmentation ideal"), and let $\mathcal{K}_m := \langle (\mathcal{K}_1)^m \rangle$ (using all available "products").

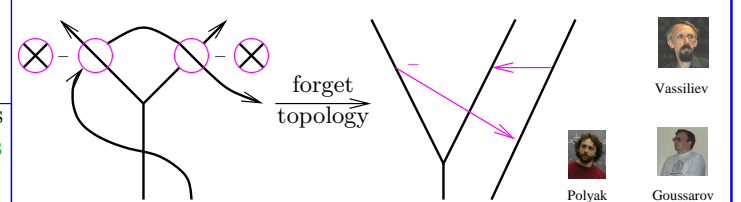
Example: Pure Braids. PB_n is generated by x_{ij} , "strand i goes around strand j once", modulo "Reidemeister moves". $A_n := \text{gr } PB_n$ is generated by $t_{ij} := x_{ij} - 1$, modulo the $4T$ relations $[t_{ij}, t_{ik} + t_{jk}] = 0$ (and some lesser ones too). Much happens in A_n , including the Drinfel'd theory of associators.

Our case(s).

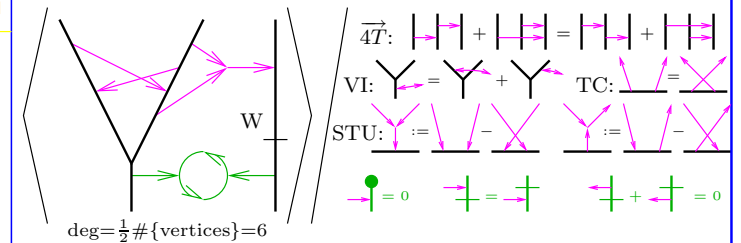
$$\mathcal{K} \xrightarrow[\text{solving finitely many equations in finitely many unknowns}]{Z: \text{high algebra}} \mathcal{A} := \text{gr } \mathcal{K} \xrightarrow[\text{low algebra: pictures represent formulas}]{\text{given a "Lie" algebra } \mathfrak{g}} "U(\mathfrak{g})"$$

\mathcal{K} is knot theory or topology; $\text{gr } \mathcal{K}$ is finite combinatorics: bounded-complexity diagrams modulo simple relations.

From wTT to \mathcal{A}^w : $\text{gr}_m \text{wTT} := \{m\text{-cubes}\} / \{(m+1)\text{-cubes}\}$:



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



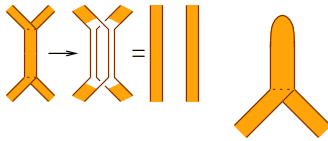
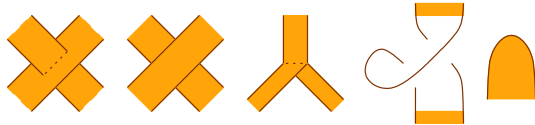
Diagrammatic to Algebraic. With (x_i) and (φ^j) dual bases of \mathfrak{g} and \mathfrak{g}^* and with $[x_i, x_j] = \sum b_{ij}^k x_k$, we have $\mathcal{A}^w \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$ via

$$\begin{array}{c} b_{ij}^k \xrightarrow{k} b_{kl}^m \\ \begin{array}{c} i \\ \varphi^i \end{array} \begin{array}{c} j \\ \varphi^j \end{array} \begin{array}{c} n \\ x_n \end{array} \begin{array}{c} m \\ x_m \end{array} \begin{array}{c} n \\ \varphi^n \end{array} \begin{array}{c} l \\ \varphi^l \end{array} \\ \xrightarrow{\dim \mathfrak{g}} \sum_{i,j,k,l,m,n=1} b_{ij}^k b_{kl}^m \varphi^i \varphi^j x_n x_m \varphi^l \in \mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g}) \end{array}$$

We skipped... • The Alexander • v-Knots, quantum groups and polynomial and Milnor numbers. Etingof-Kazhdan. • u-Knots and Drinfel'd associators. • BF theory and the successful religion of path integrals.

The Orbit Method. By Fourier analysis, the characters of $(\text{Fun}(\mathfrak{g})^G, \star)$ correspond to coadjoint orbits in \mathfrak{g}^* . By averaging representation matrices and using Schur's lemma to replace intertwiners by scalars, to every irreducible representation of G we can assign a character of $(\text{Fun}(G)^G, \star)$.

Measure theoretic statement. Ignoring all ω 's, there exists a **measure preserving** and orbit preserving transformation $T : \mathfrak{g}_x \times \mathfrak{g}_y \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}_x \times \mathfrak{g}_y$ for which $e^{x+y} \circ T = e^x e^y$.



Draft

Δ acts by double and sum, S by reverse and negate.

A concrete example.

