

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

Dror Bar-Natan at Swiss Knots 2011

<http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Talks/SwissKnots-1105/>  
Foots & refs on PDF version, page 3.

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

**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".  $\text{gr}_I K := \widehat{\bigoplus} I^m/I^{m+1}$  has a product  $\mu$ , 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  $\mu$  on  $\text{gr } K$ .

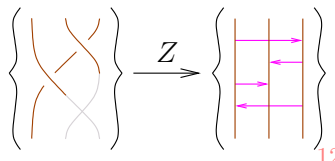


Peter Lee

**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  $\mu$ .

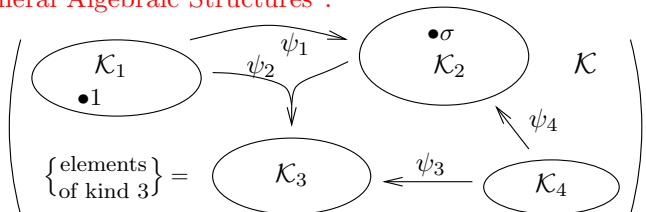
**Dror's Dream.** All interesting graded objects and equations, especially those around quantum groups, arise this way. 6

**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.



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## General Algebraic Structures<sup>1</sup>.



- Has kinds, elements, operations, and maybe constants. All still
- Must have "the free structure over some generators".
- We always allow formal linear combinations. 14 works!

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

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

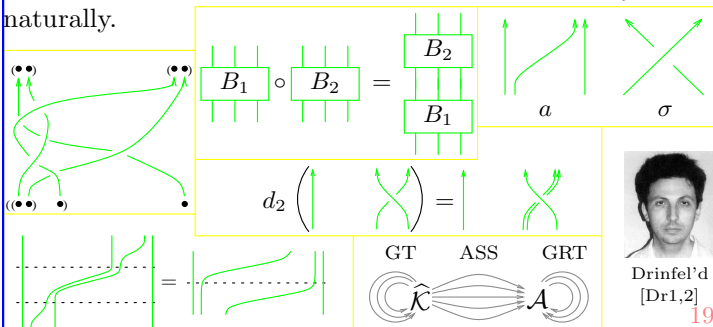
$$(x \wedge y) \wedge z = (x \wedge z) \wedge (y \wedge z). \quad (\text{main})$$

$\mathcal{A}(K)$  is a graded Leibniz<sup>2</sup> 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 story<sup>3</sup> arises naturally.

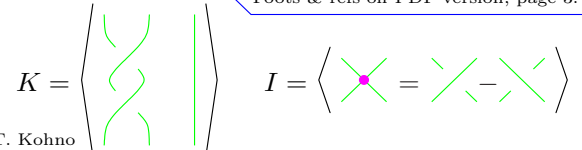


Drinfel'd [Dr1,2] 19

## Example 1.



T. Kohno



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

$$(I^m/I^{m+1})^* = \mathcal{V}_m/\mathcal{V}_{m-1} \quad C = \langle t^{ij} | t^{ij} = t^{ji} \rangle = \langle \text{HH} \rangle$$

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

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

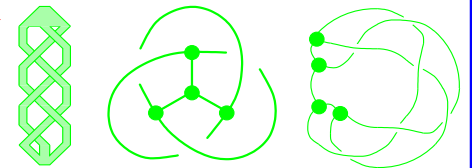
$Z$ : universal finite type invariant, the Kontsevich integral. 9

**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. 11

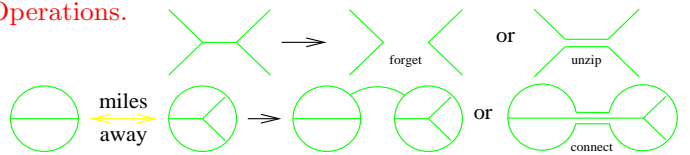
## Example 5 - Knotted Trivalent Graphs.



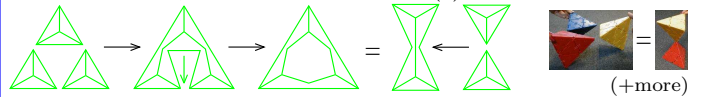
D. Thurston [Th]



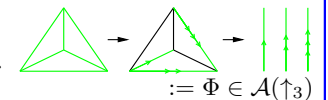
## Operations.



**Presentation.** KTG is generated by ribbon twists and the tetrahedron  $\Delta$ , modulo the relation(s):

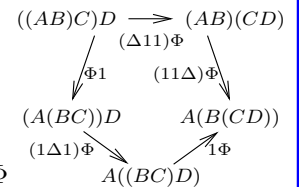


**Claim.** With  $\Phi := Z(\Delta)$ , the above relation becomes equivalent to the Drinfel'd's pentagon of the theory of quasi-Hopf algebras.



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

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



satisfying the "pentagon",

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

$$\mathcal{A}(\uparrow_2) := \left\langle \text{trivalent graphs} \right\rangle / \text{AS, } (\text{deg} = \frac{1}{2} \# \{ \text{trivalent vertices} \}) \xrightarrow[\mathfrak{g} = \langle X_a \rangle]{\text{Given a metrized } \mathfrak{g}} \mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{g})^{\otimes 2}$$

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



Penrose



Cvitanovic

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