

Qualgebras: a bridge between knotted graphs and axiomatizations of groups

Victoria LEBED

OCAMI, Osaka

Topology Seminar, University of Tsukuba
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Based on:

- \\ Qualgebras and Knotted 3-Valent Graphs, ArXiv, 2014
- \\ (With S. Kamada) Alexander and Markov Theorems for Graph-Braids,
in progress

Qualgebras: a bridge between knotted graphs and axiomatizations of groups



Qualgebras: a bridge between knotted graphs
and axiomatizations of groups



Qualgebras: a bridge between knotted graphs
and axiomatizations of groups



Part 1:

*How a Knot Theorist
Would Invent Qualgebras*

Knot diagrams: from illustration to manipulation

1926 K. Reidemeister:

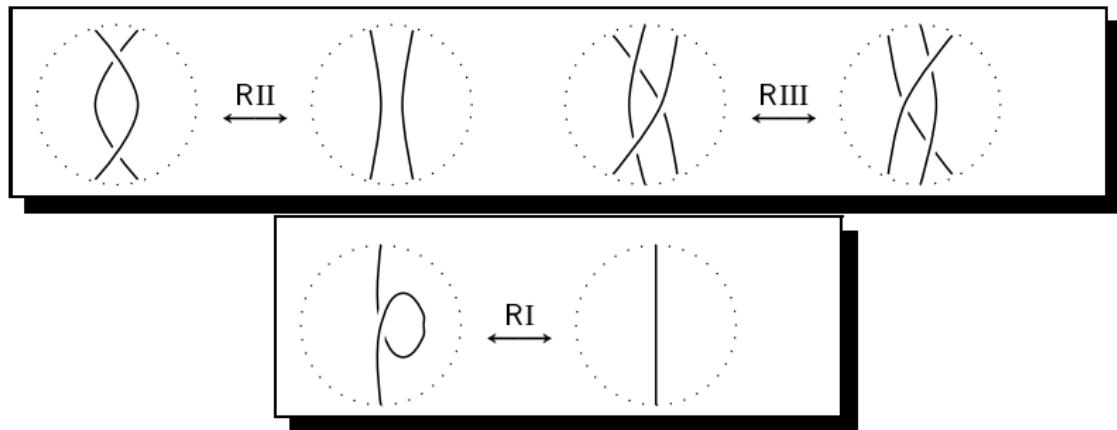
$$\text{Knots} \quad \cong \quad \text{Diagrams} \Big/ \text{R-moves}$$

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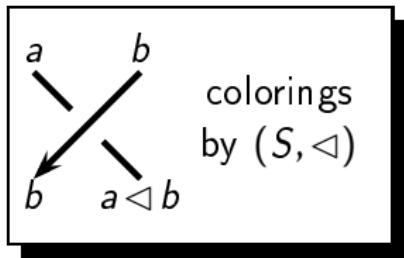
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Combinatorial knot invariants:

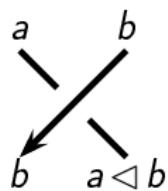
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Diagrams $\xrightarrow{\hspace{2cm}}$ something
 \downarrow \nearrow

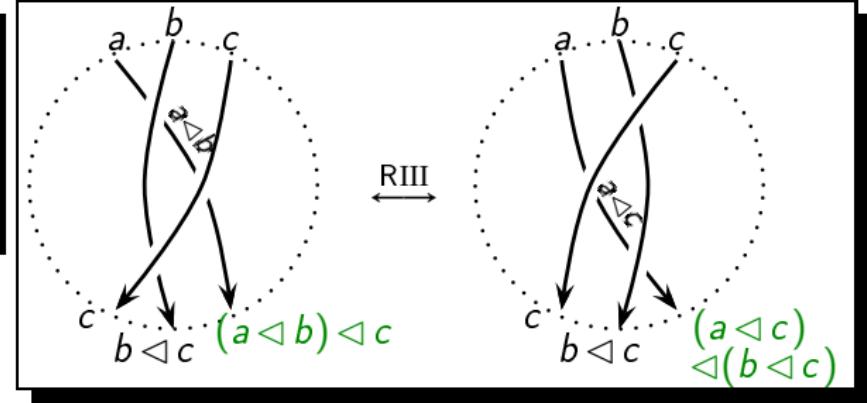
Quandles as an algebraization of knots



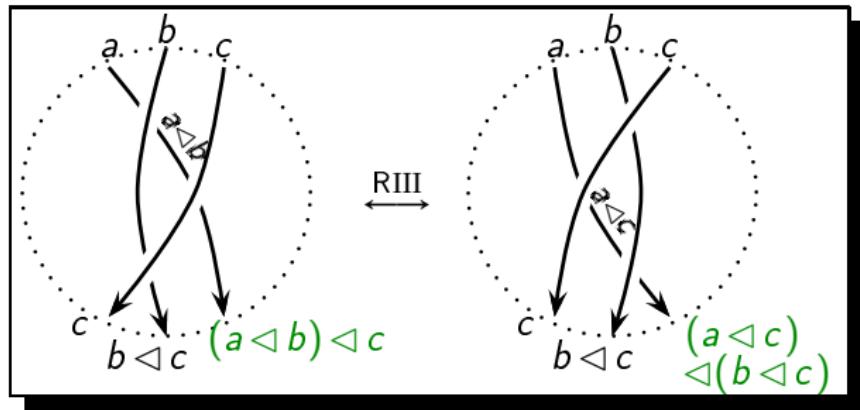
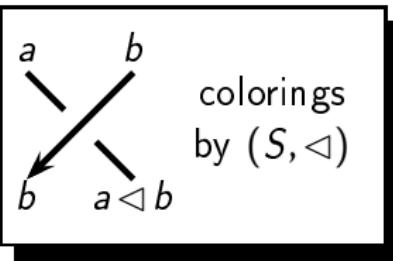
Quandles as an algebraization of knots



colorings
by (S, \triangleleft)

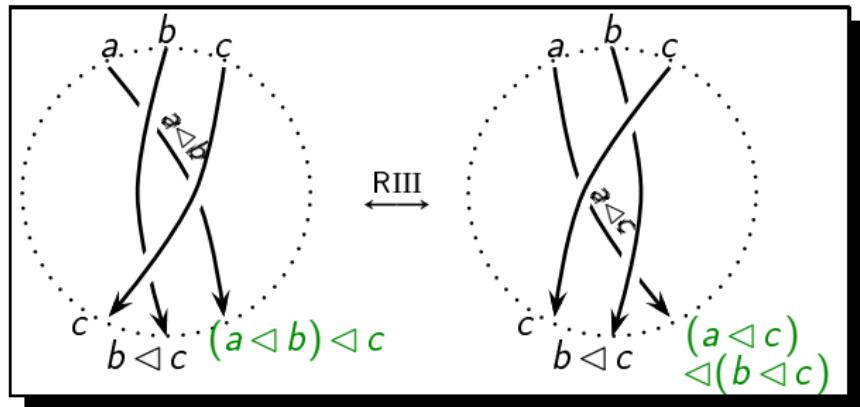
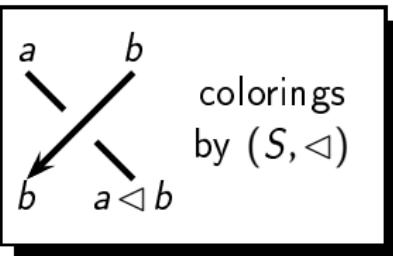


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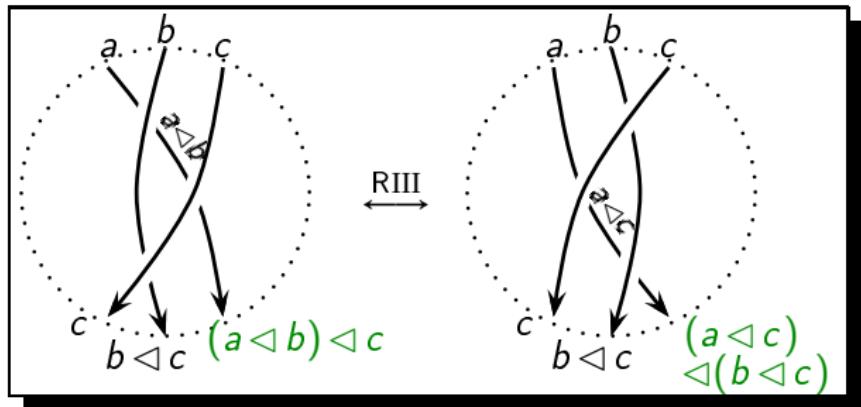
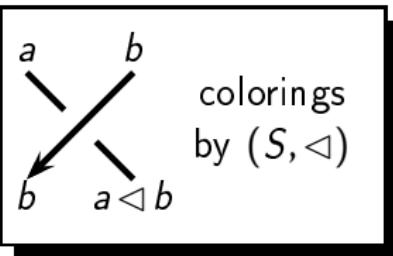
$$\text{RIII} \leftrightarrow (a \triangleleft b) \triangleleft c = (a \triangleleft c) \triangleleft (b \triangleleft c) \quad (\text{SD})$$

Quandles as an algebraization of knots



RIII	\leftrightarrow	$(a \triangleleft b) \triangleleft c = (a \triangleleft c) \triangleleft (b \triangleleft c)$	(SD)
RII	\leftrightarrow	$(a \triangleleft b) \tilde{\triangleleft} b = a = (a \tilde{\triangleleft} b) \triangleleft b$	(Inv)
RI	\leftrightarrow	$a \triangleleft a = a$	(Idem)

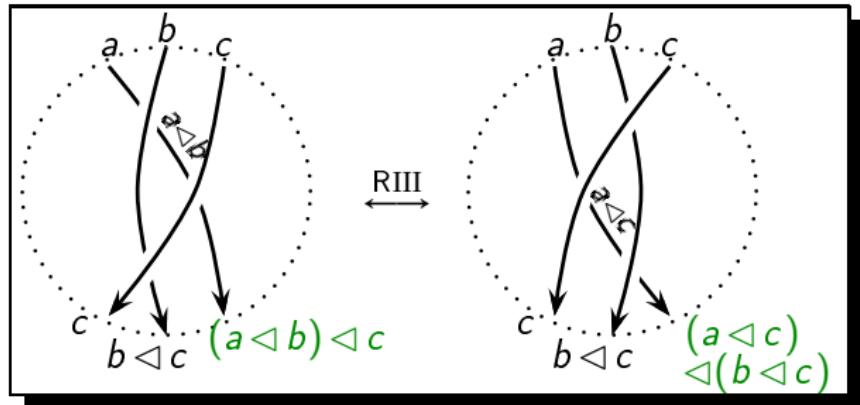
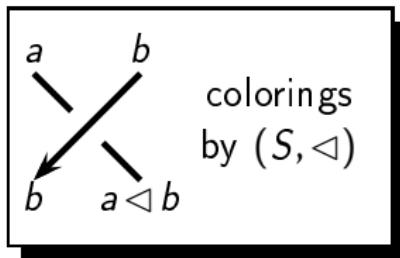
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$$\begin{array}{lcl} \text{RIII} & \leftrightarrow & (a \triangleleft b) \triangleleft c = (a \triangleleft c) \triangleleft (b \triangleleft c) \quad (\text{SD}) \\ \text{RII} & \leftrightarrow & (a \triangleleft b) \tilde{\triangleleft} b = a = (a \tilde{\triangleleft} b) \triangleleft b \quad (\text{Inv}) \\ \text{RI} & \leftrightarrow & a \triangleleft a = a \quad (\text{Idem}) \end{array}$$

Quandle
 } (1982 D. Joyce,
 S. Matveev)

Quandles as an algebraization of knots

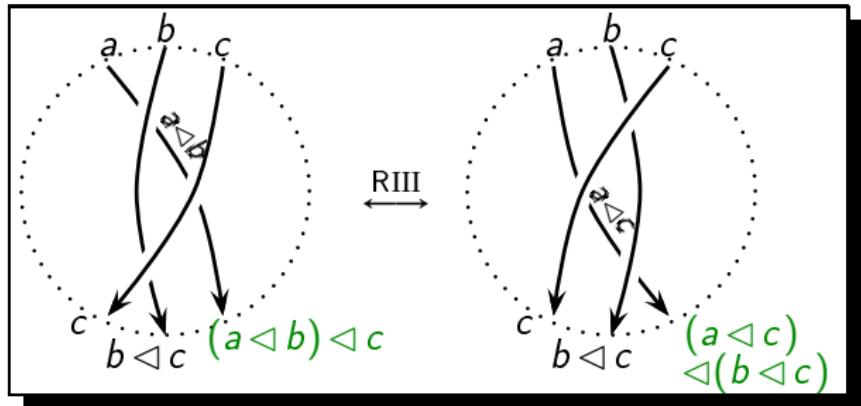
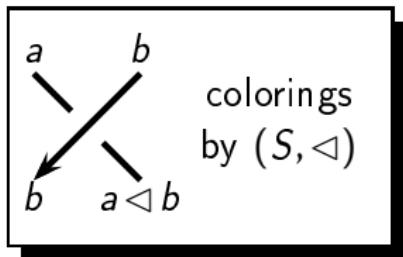


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knot invariants $\stackrel{\text{colorings}}{\sim}$ quandle

Quandles as an algebraization of knots



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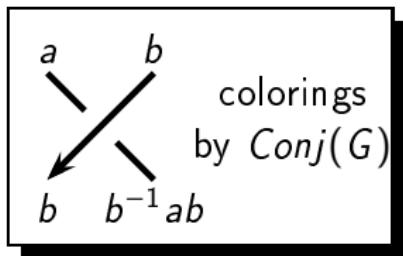
(1982 D. Joyce, S. Matveev)

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Example

Group $G \rightsquigarrow$
 $\text{Conj}(G) = (G, g \triangleleft h = h^{-1}gh).$

Quandles as an algebraization of knots



R III	\leftrightarrow	$(a \triangleleft b) \triangleleft c = (a \triangleleft c) \triangleleft (b \triangleleft c)$	(SD)
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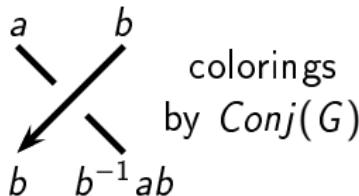
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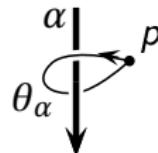
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Quandles as an algebraization of knots



Wirtinger presentation:



colorings by $\text{Conj}(G)$
 \downarrow
 $\text{Rep}(\pi_1(\mathbb{R}^3 \setminus K), G)$

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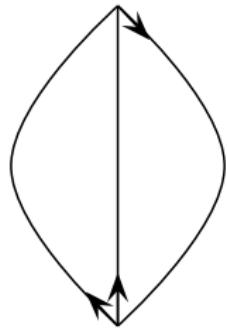
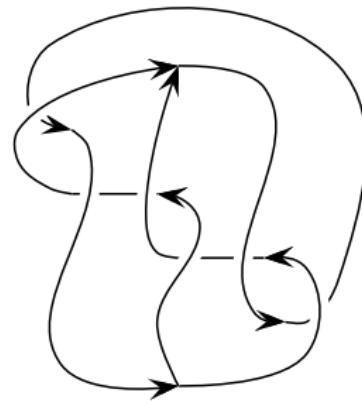
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Knotted 3-valent graphs

Standard and Kinoshita-Terasaka Θ -curves:

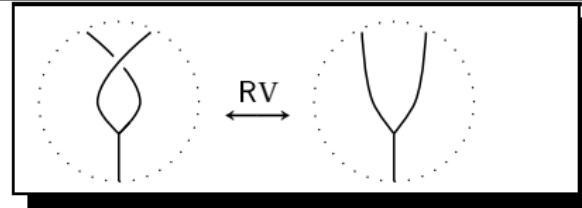
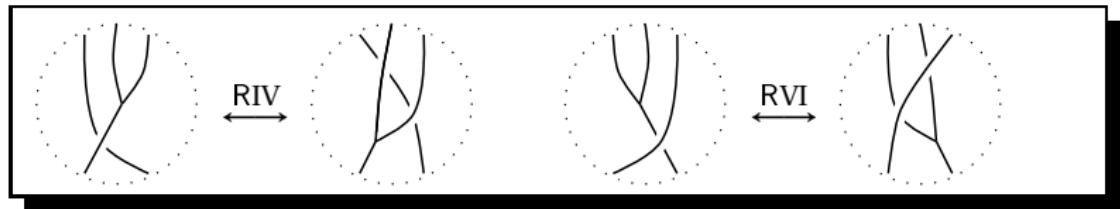

 Θ_{st}

 Θ_{KT}

Importance:

- ❖ handlebody-knots;
- ❖ foams (categorification, 3-manifolds);
- ❖ form a finitely presented algebraic system (⚠ knots do not).

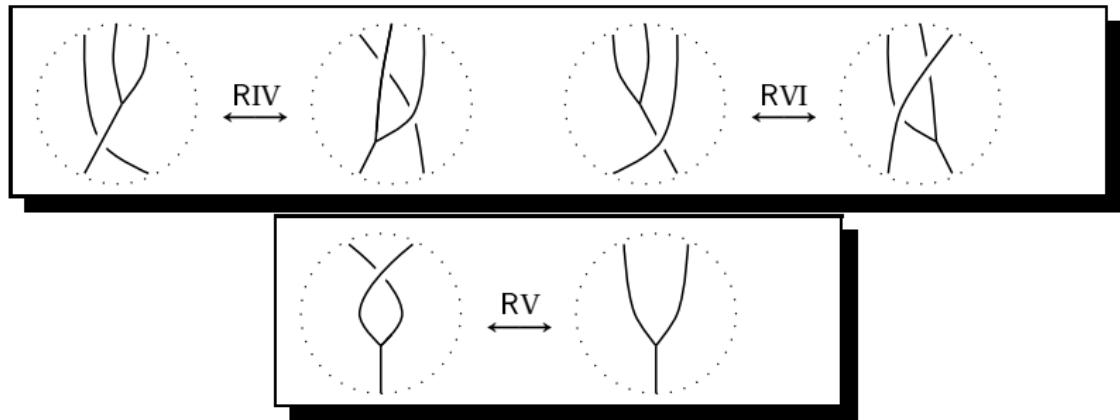
Reidemeister moves for 3-graphs

1989 L.H. Kauffman, S. Yamada, D.N. Yetter:



Reidemeister moves for 3-graphs

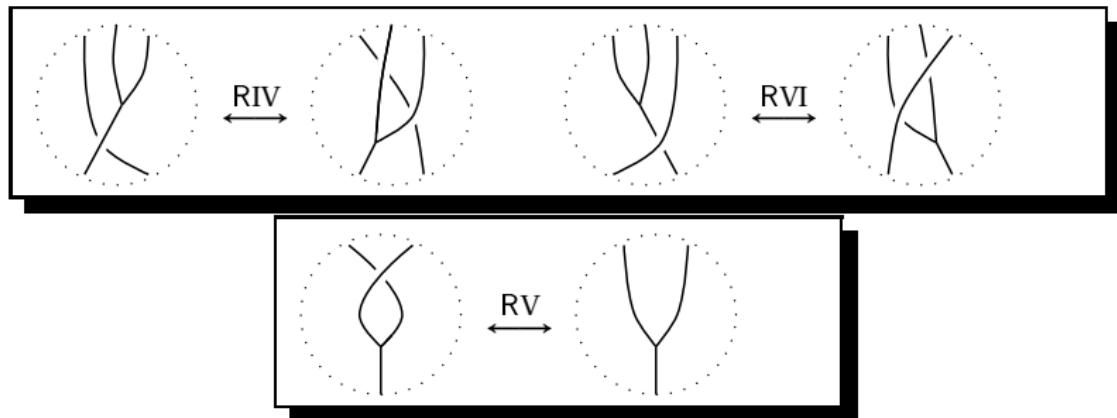
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$$\text{3-Graphs} \quad \cong \quad \text{Diagrams} \ / \ \text{RI-RVI}$$

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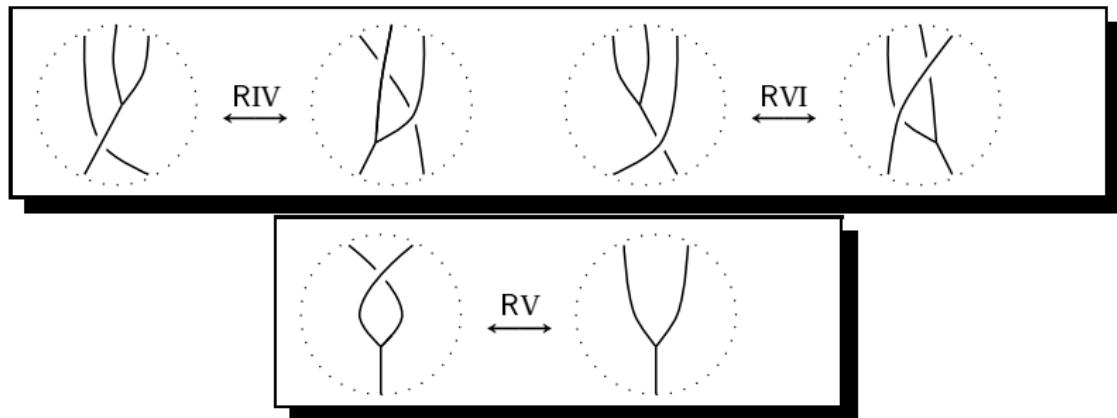
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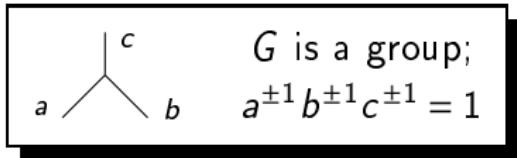
$3\text{-Graphs} \quad \cong \quad$

Diagrams \longrightarrow something

Diagrams / RI-RVI

Question: How to extend quandle colorings to 3-graphs?

Quandle colorings for 3-graphs



generalizations:

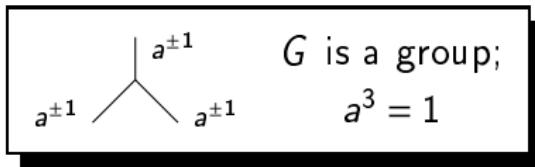
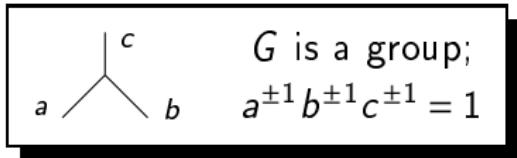
G-family of quandles (2012

Ishii-Iwakiri-Jang-Oshiro),

multiple conjugation quandle

(2013 A. Ishii)

Quandle colorings for 3-graphs

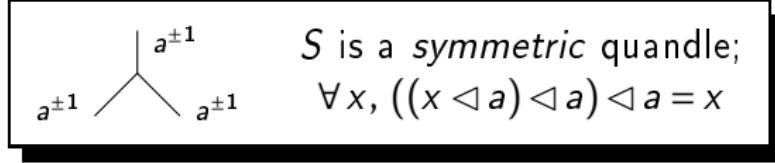
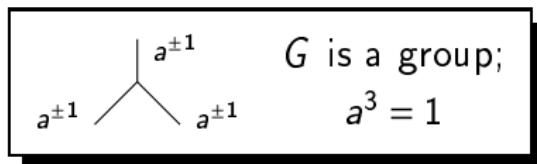
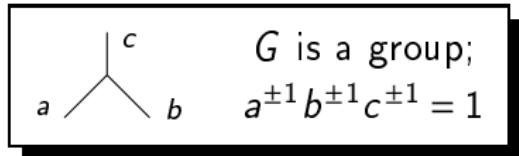


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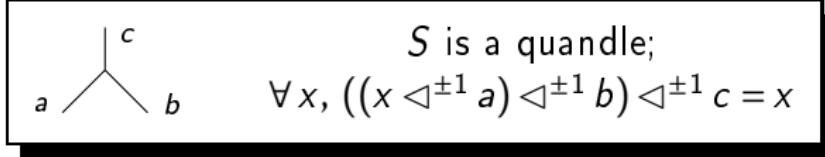
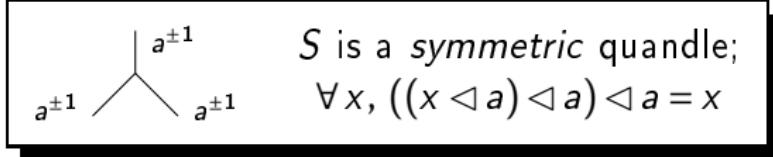
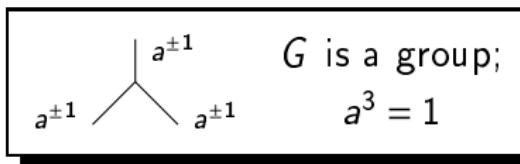
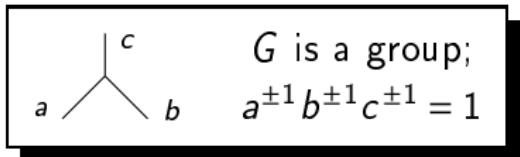
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Quandle colorings for 3-graphs



generalizations:

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 (1995 C. Livingston)

(2007
 Fleming-Mellor)

(2010
 M. Niebrzydowski)

Orientation

Well-oriented 3-graphs: only *zip*



and *unzip*



vertices.

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Proposition: Every 3-graph admits a well-orientation.

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Unoriented 3-graph $\longmapsto \{ \text{its well-orientations} \}$.

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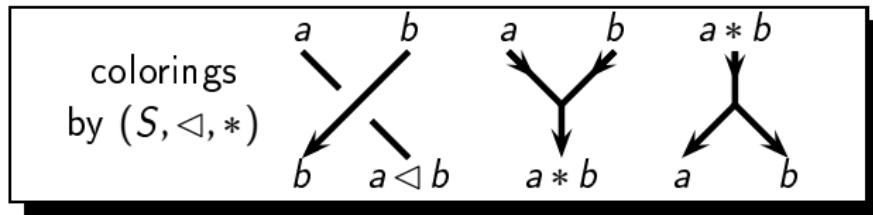
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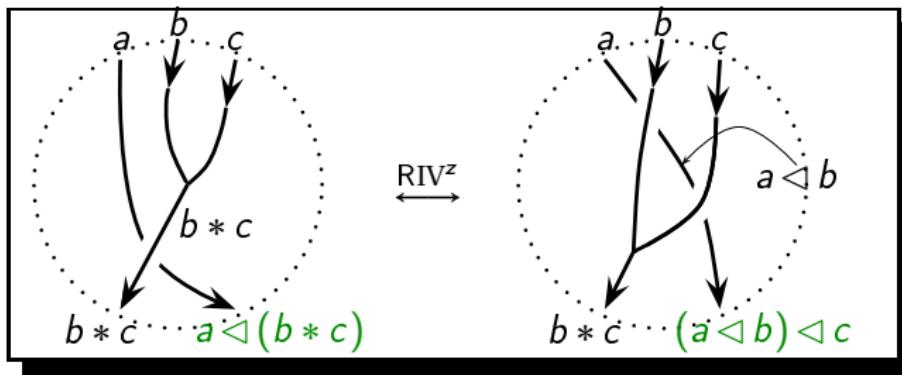
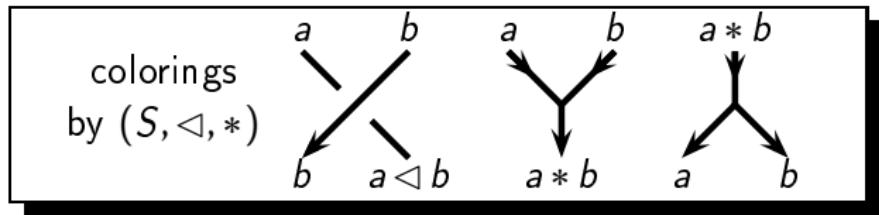
Side question: $\# \{ \text{well-orientations of } \Gamma \} ?$

Theorem (A. Ishii): all well-orientations are connected by single-edge orientation switches.

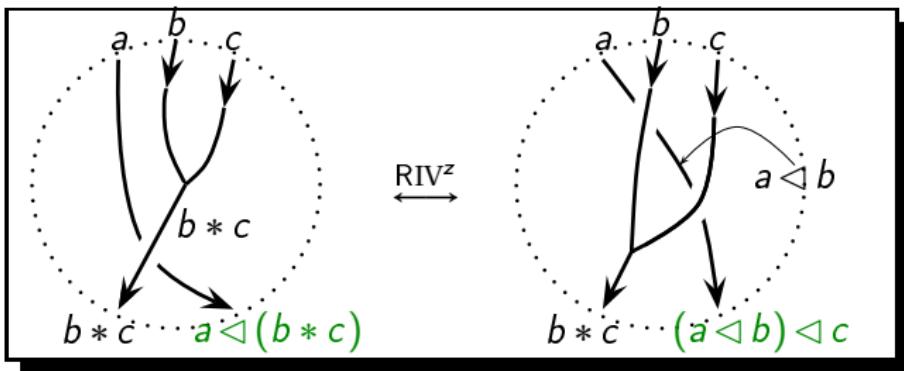
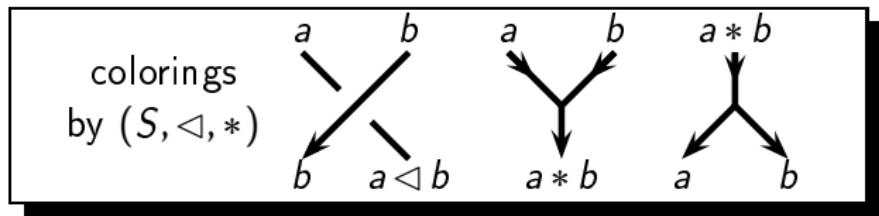
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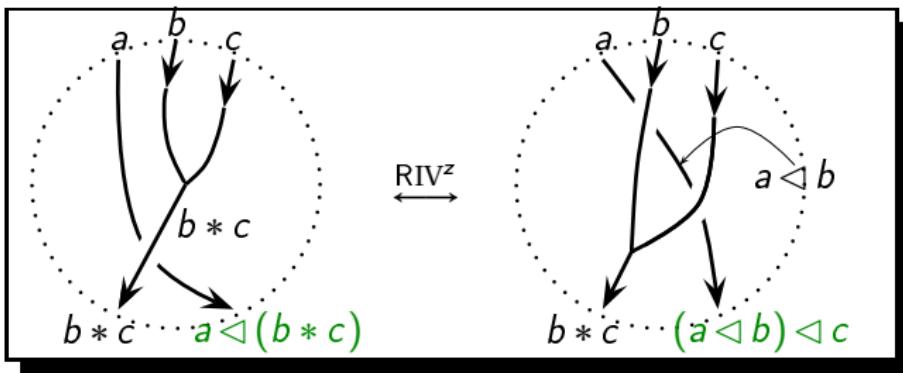
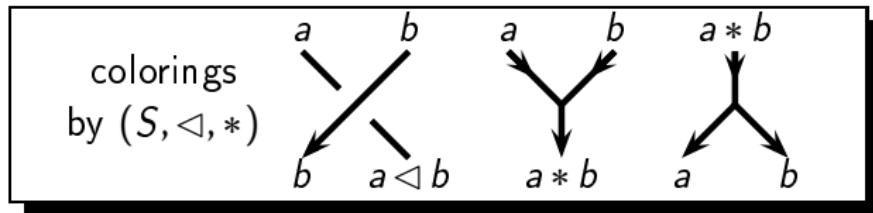


$$\text{RIV} \leftrightarrow a \triangleleft (b * c) = (a \triangleleft b) \triangleleft c$$

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$$\text{RV} \leftrightarrow a * b = b * (a \triangleleft b)$$

Qualgebras as an algebraization of 3-graphs

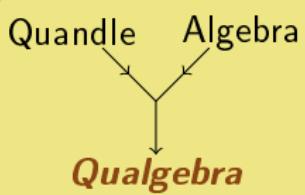


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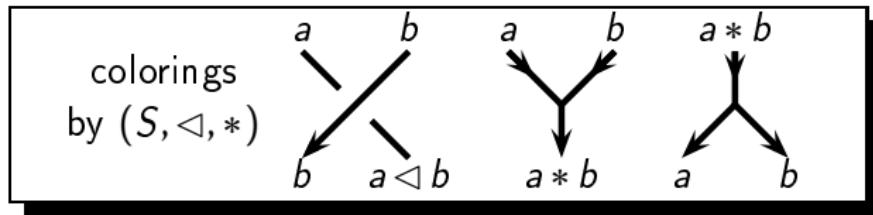
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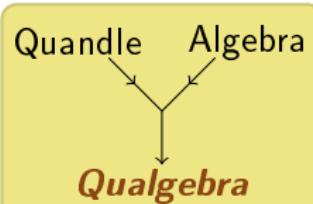


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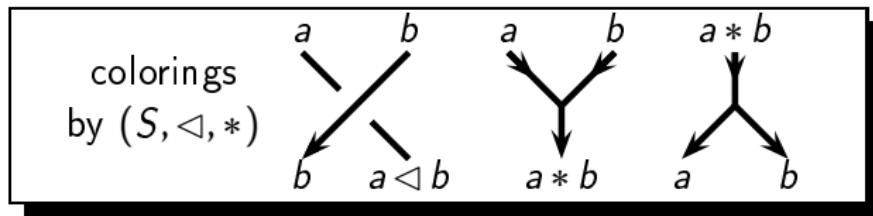
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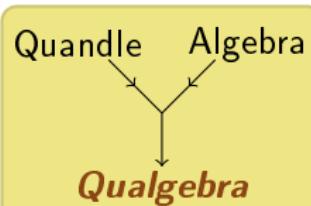
3-graph invariants $\stackrel{\text{colorings}}{\leadsto}$ qualgebra

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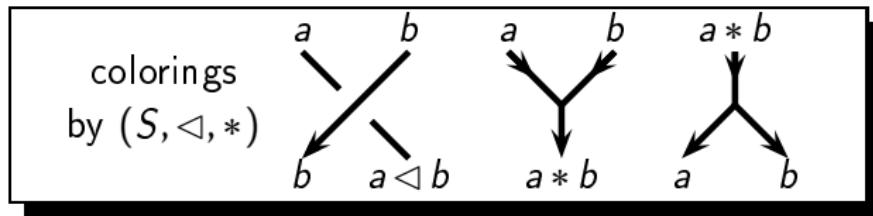


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Example

$$\text{Group } G \rightsquigarrow QA(G) = (G, g \triangleleft h = h^{-1}gh, g * h = gh).$$

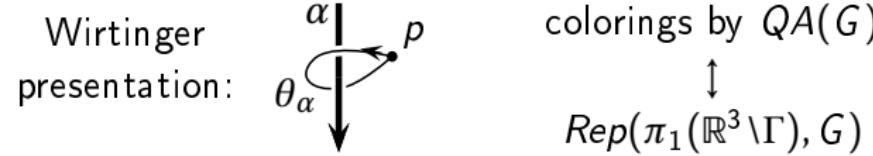
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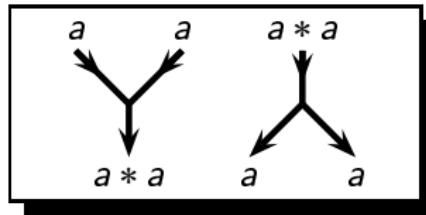
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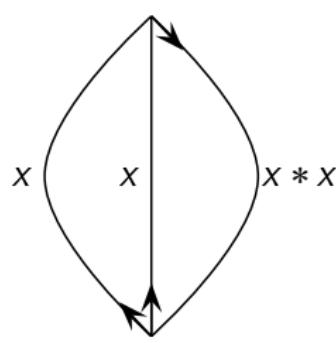
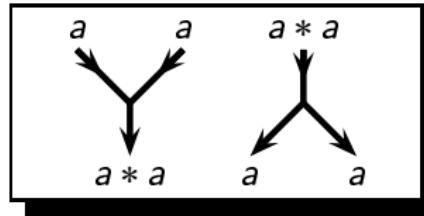
Computation example

Isosceles colorings:

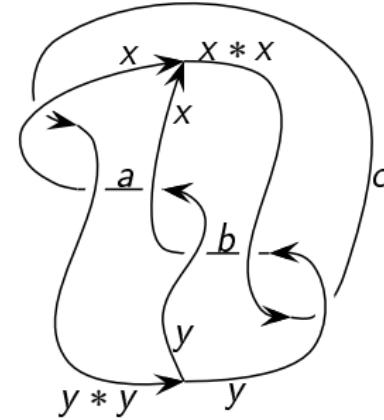


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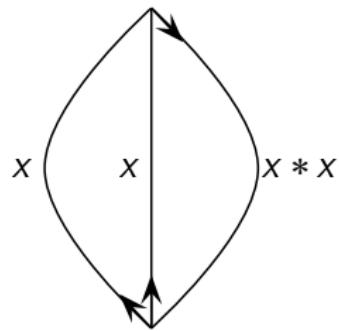
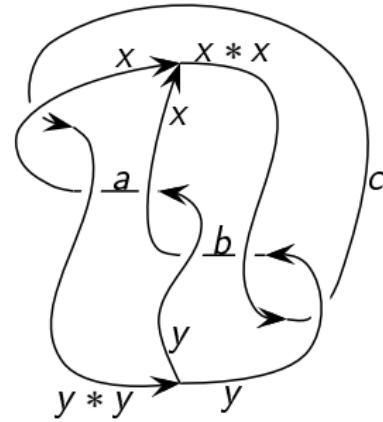


Θ_{st}



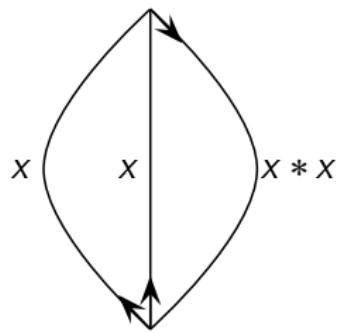
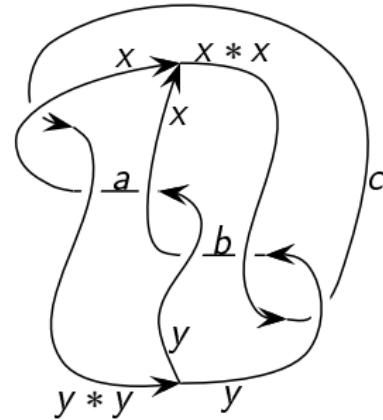
Θ_{KT}

Computation example

 Θ_{st}  Θ_{KT}

$$(\star) \left\{ \begin{array}{lcl} a & = & x \triangleleft (y * y) = y \triangleleft x, \\ b & = & x \tilde{\triangleleft} y = y \tilde{\triangleleft} (x * x), \\ c & = & (y * y) \triangleleft x = (x * x) \tilde{\triangleleft} y. \end{array} \right.$$

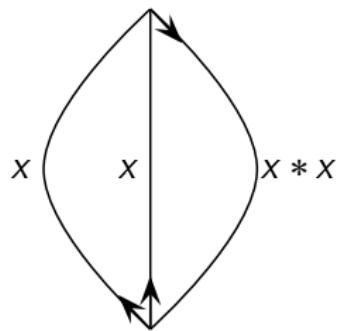
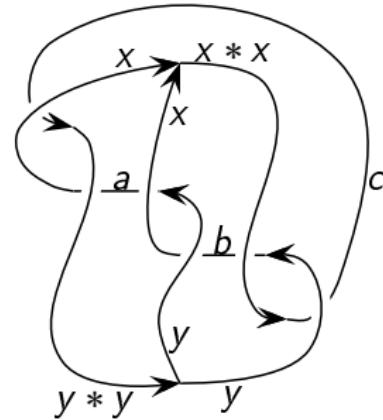
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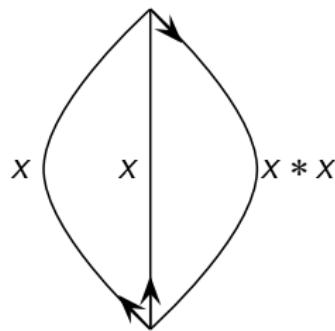
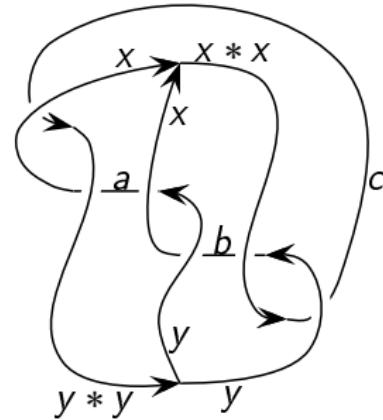
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$$\#Col_{S_4}^{iso}(\Theta_{st}) = S_4$$

$$\#Col_{S_4}^{iso}(\Theta_{KT}) > \#S_4$$

Part 2:

*How an Algebraist
Would Invent Qualgebras*

Group qualgebras

Example 1

Group $G \rightsquigarrow \text{group qualgebra } QA(G) = (G, g \triangleleft h = h^{-1}gh, g * h = gh).$

Group quandles

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abstract level	quandle axioms	specific qualgebra axioms
topology	moves RI-RIII	moves RIV-RVI
groups	conjugation	conjugation-multiplication interaction

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Quandle axioms \Rightarrow all properties of conjugation.

⚠ Qualgebra axioms $\not\Rightarrow$ all properties of conjugation/multiplication interaction.

$$(b \triangleleft a) * (a \triangleleft b) = ((a \widetilde{\triangleleft} b) \triangleleft a) * b$$

in $QA(G)$: $a^{-1}bab^{-1}ab = a^{-1}bab^{-1}ab$

in free qualgebras : false

Other qualgebra examples

Example 1

Group $G \rightsquigarrow$ group qualgebra $QA(G) = (G, g \triangleleft h = h^{-1}gh, g * h = gh)$.

Example 1'

Group G & $X \subset G \rightsquigarrow$ the sub-qualgebra of $QA(G)$ generated by X .

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\rightsquigarrow Abstract graph invariants.

An infinite family of exotic examples

Example S_n

Set X & commutative operation \star & zero element 0 ($0 \star x = x \star 0 = 0$)

An infinite family of exotic examples

Example S_n

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 $Q_{X,n} = \{((x_1, \dots, x_n), g) \in X^{\times n} \times S_n \mid x_i = x_j = 0 \text{ whenever } g(i) = j \text{ with } i \neq j\}$,

$$\begin{aligned}(\bar{x}, g) \triangleleft (\bar{y}, h) &= (\bar{x} \cdot h, h^{-1}gh), \\(\bar{x}, g) * (\bar{y}, h) &= (\bar{x} \star \bar{y}, gh)\end{aligned}$$

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❖ Commutative. ❖ Associative.

❖ Not cancellative \Rightarrow do not come from groups:

$$((0, 0), \tau) *_i ((x_1, x_2), \text{Id}) = ((0, 0), \tau), \quad i = 1, 2.$$

Towards a classification

Example 3

Size ≤ 3 : only trivial quandles.

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Non-trivial quagebra structures on $Q = \{p, q, r, s\}$:

$$\text{put } \overline{p} = q, \overline{q} = p, \overline{r} = r, \overline{s} = s;$$

$$x \triangleleft r = \overline{x}, \quad x \triangleleft y = x \text{ for other } y;$$

$$* \text{ is commutative, } \quad \overline{x} * \overline{y} = \overline{x * y},$$

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$\leadsto 3 * 3 = 9$ structures.

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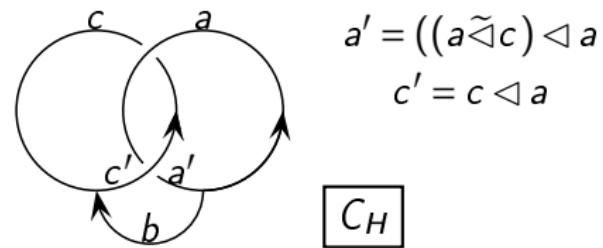
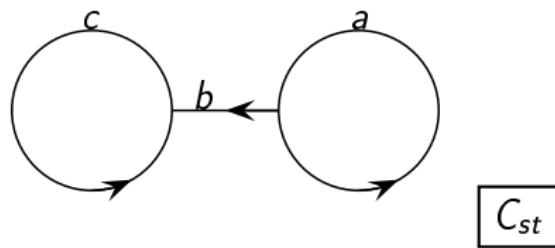
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Question: Continue the classification.

Computation example

Standard and Hopf cuff graphs:



$$\#Col_Q(C_{st}) = \#\{(a, b, c) \in Q \mid b * a = a, b * c = c\} = 18,$$

$$\#Col_Q(C_H) = \#\{(a, b, c) \in Q \mid b * a = a \lhd c, b * c = c \lhd a\} = 14.$$

Qualgebras with inversion

Question: How far qualgebras are from groups?

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Step 1: inversion.

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Step 1: inversion.

Good involution: $\rho : S \rightarrow S$ s.t.

$$\rho(\rho(a)) = a$$

$$\rho(a) \triangleleft b = \rho(a \triangleleft b)$$

$$a \triangleleft \rho(b) = a \tilde{\triangleleft} b$$

$$(a * b) * \rho(b) = \rho(b) * (b * a) = a$$

$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Symmetric} \\ \text{quandle} \\ (1996) \\ \text{S. Kamada} \end{array} \right\}$
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Group $G \rightsquigarrow QA^*(G) = (G, g \triangleleft h = h^{-1}gh, g * h = gh, \rho(h) = h^{-1})$.

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Properties:

- ✿ Maps $a \mapsto a * b$ and $a \mapsto b * a$ are bijections
 $\rightsquigarrow *$ is a **Latin square** (= pseudo-sudoku).

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{ *Symmetric quandle*
 (1996
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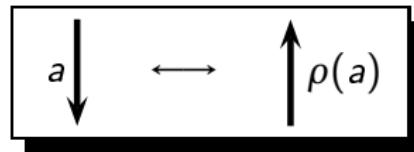
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- ✿ ρ is defined uniquely.

Topological motivation

Question: When are quandle invariants independent of orientations?

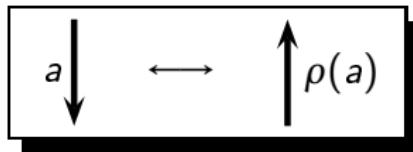
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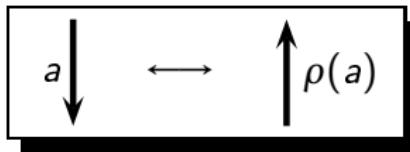


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abstract level	good involution axioms
topology	<u>un</u> oriented 3-graphs
groups	conjugation- and multiplication-inversion interactions

Symmetric qualgebras: examples

Example 0

Symmetric trivial qualgebras \longleftrightarrow Latin squares which

- ✿ are symmetric w.r.t. the main diagonal, and
- ✿ contain a row $\sigma \in \text{Bij}(S)$ iff contain a row σ^{-1} .

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$S = \{x, y, z\}$, $a \triangleleft b = a$, $*$ is commutative.

*	x	y	z
x	x	y	z
y	y	z	x
z	z	x	y
ρ	x	z	y

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x	x	z	y
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$\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}$

not groups

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- ✿ Non-trivial qualgebras: not symmetric (\Leftarrow not cancellative).

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- ❖ Trivial qualgebras:

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x	x	y	z	w
y	y	z	w	x
z	z	w	x	y
w	w	x	y	z
ρ	x	w	z	y

$\leftarrow QA(\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z})$

$QA(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow$

*	x	y	z	w
x	x	y	z	w
y	y	x	w	z
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not
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Associative qualgebras

Question: How far qualgebras are from groups?

Associative qualgebras

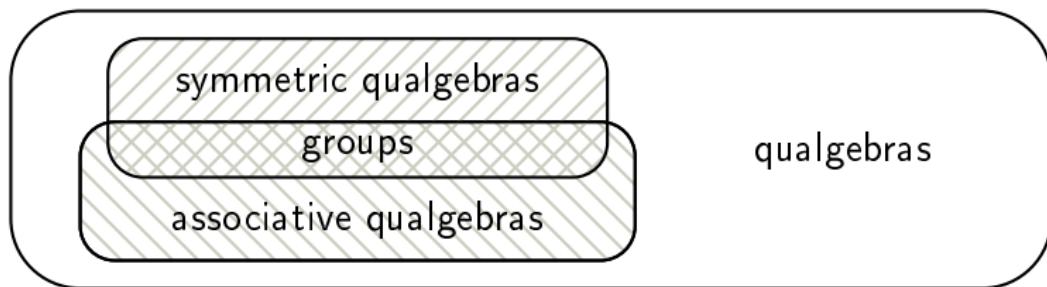
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Step 2: associativity (for $*$).

Associative qualgebras

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From quandles to qualgebras: theory

Question: Can a quandle (S, \triangleleft) be *qualgebraized* into $(S, \triangleleft, *)$?

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From quandles to qualgebras: examples

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Uniqueness

$QA(S_n)$ is the unique qualgebraization of $\text{Conj}(S_n)$ ($\iff T$ is injective).

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Quandle Q : 9 qualgebraizations.

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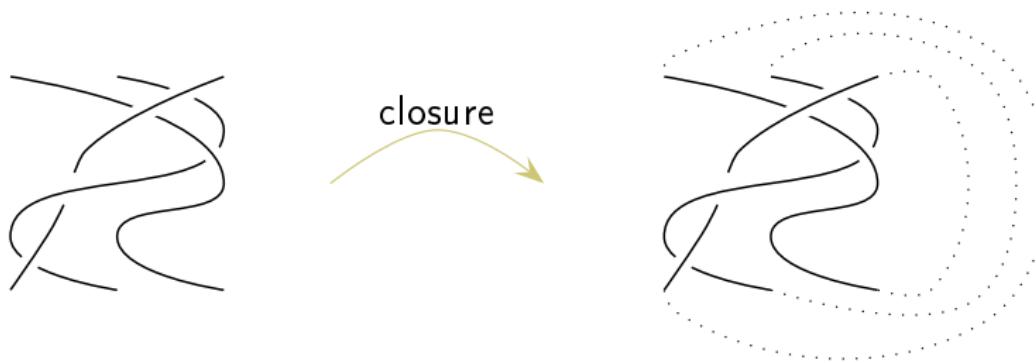
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⚠ Its sub-quandle Q' is not qualgebraizable.

Part 3:

*Variations of
Qualgebra Ideas*

Alexander-Markov theorem



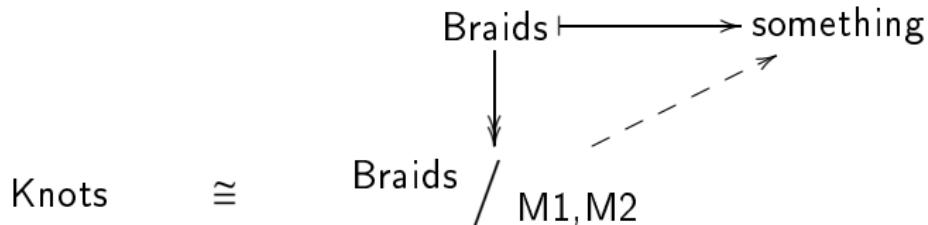
Theorem (1923 Alexander; 1935 Markov)

- ❖ Surjectivity.
- ❖ Kernel: moves M1 and M2.



Braid and knot invariants

Knot invariants out of braid invariants:



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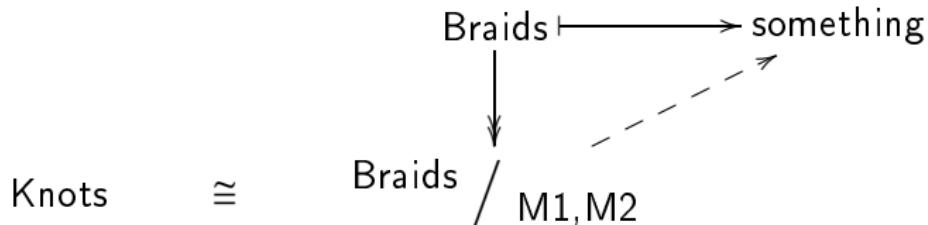
$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \text{Braids} & \longrightarrow \text{something} \\ \text{Knots} & \cong & \text{Braids} \downarrow \\ & & / \quad M_1, M_2 \end{array}$$

1925 E. Artin:

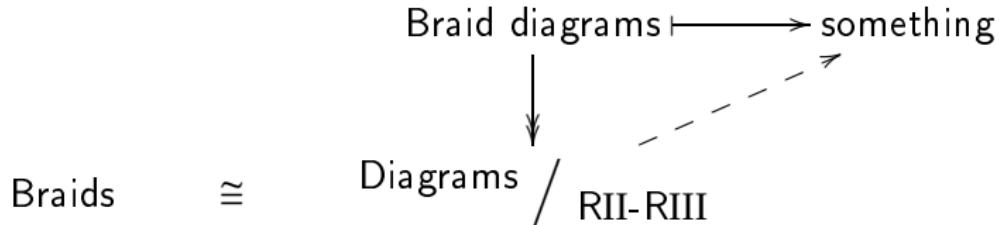
$$\text{Braids} \quad \cong \quad \text{Diagrams} \quad / \quad \text{RII-RIII}$$

Braid and knot invariants

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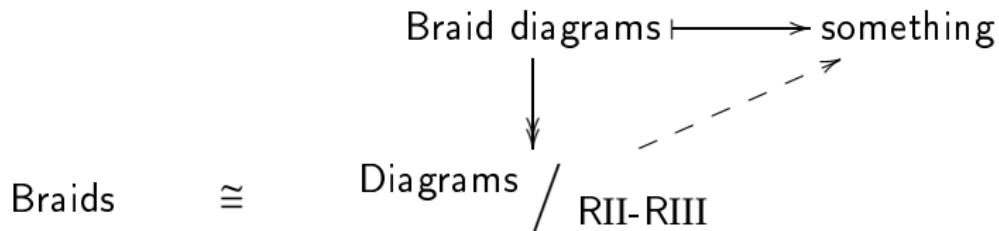


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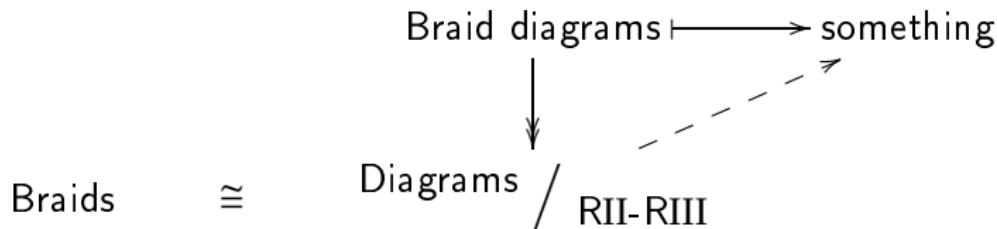


Many knot invariants adapt to the braid case, with possible **enhancements**.

Example: quandle invariants.

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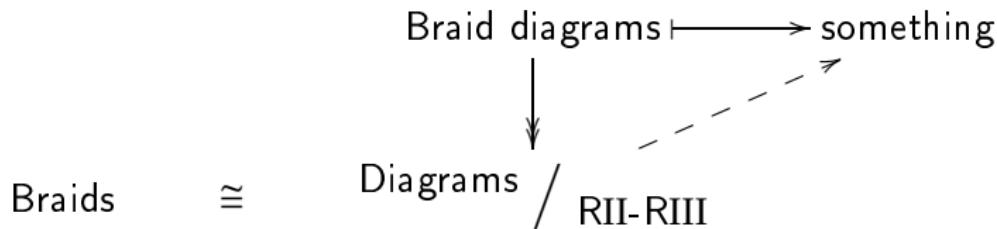
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❖ **Operator invariants** instead of counting invariants:

braids with n strands $\longrightarrow \text{Aut}(S^{\times n})$,

$\beta \longmapsto (\text{colors of upper arcs} \mapsto \text{colors of lower arcs})$.

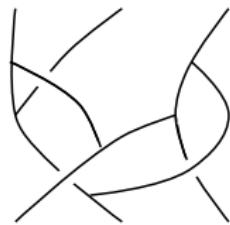
Branched Alexander-Markov theorem

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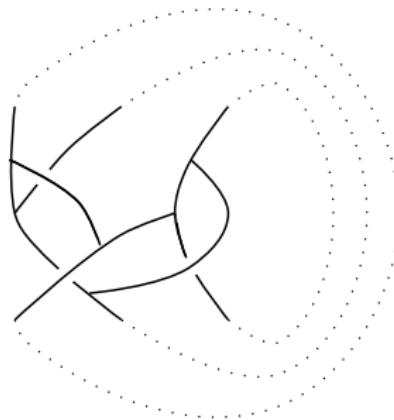
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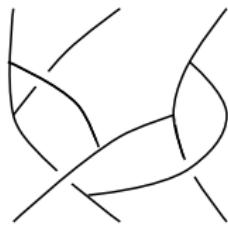
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→



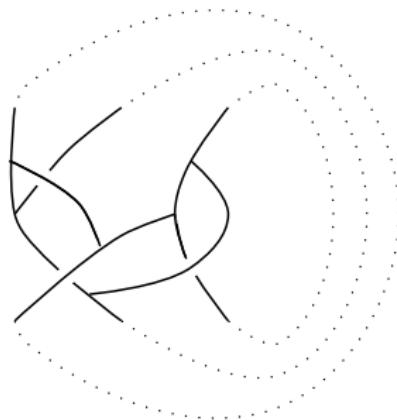
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Generalizations

- ❖ Graph-braids (vertices of arbitrary valence).
- ❖ Virtual and welded versions.

Branched braid and 3-graph invariants

3-Graph invariants out of B -braid invariants:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} B\text{-braids} & \xrightarrow{\hspace{2cm}} & \text{something} \\ \downarrow & & \nearrow \\ 3\text{-Graphs} & \cong & B\text{-braids} / M_1, M_2 \end{array}$$

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B -braid invariants $\stackrel{\text{colorings}}{\leadsto}$ **weak quaglebra** (omit $a \triangleleft a = a$)

Getting more out of quaglebra colorings

diagrams: $D \xrightarrow{\text{R-move}} D'$,
colorings: $\mathcal{C} \rightsquigarrow \mathcal{C}'$,
coloring sets: $\text{Col}_S(D) \xleftrightarrow{\text{bij}} \text{Col}_S(D')$.

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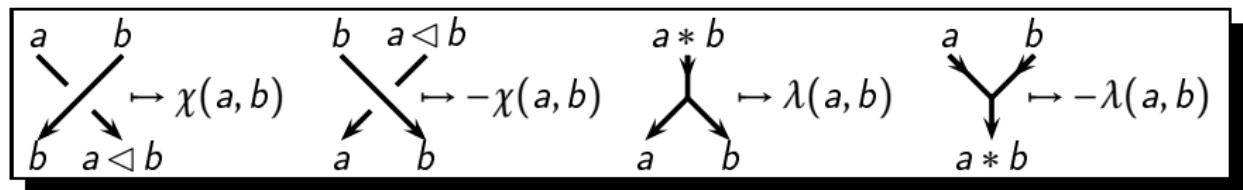
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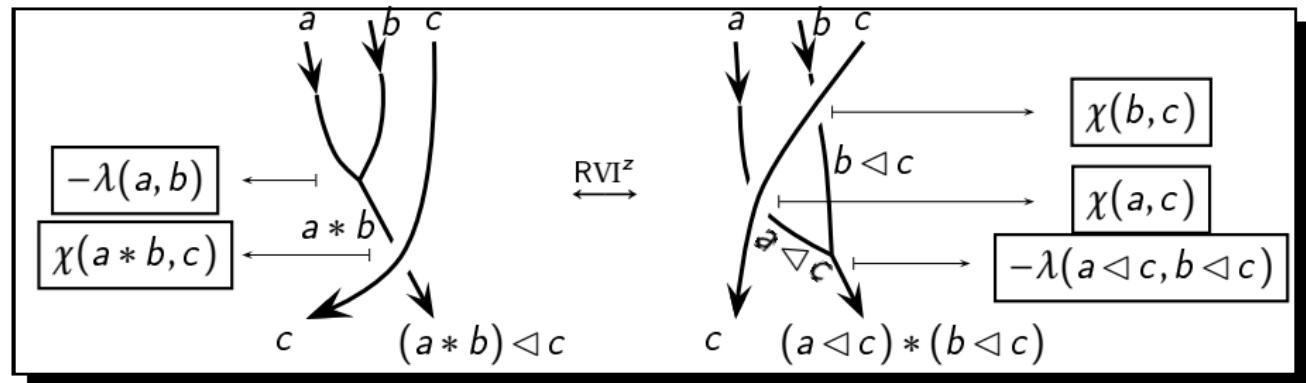
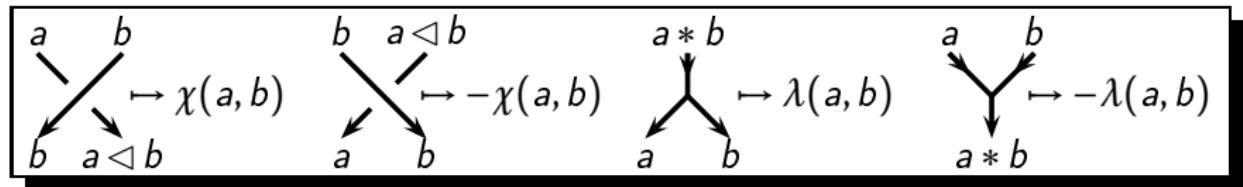
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Inspiration: **Quandle cocycle invariants** of knots (1999 Carter-Jelsovsky-Kamada-Langford-Saito).

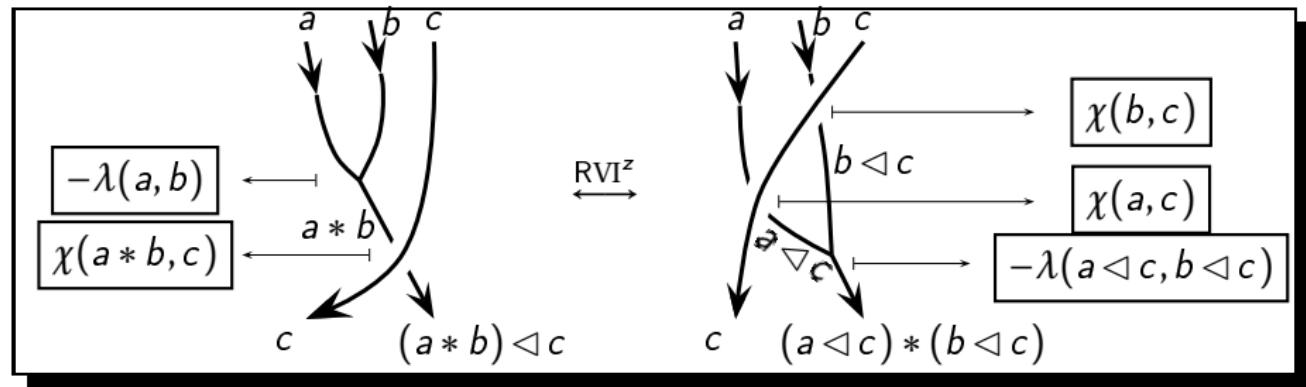
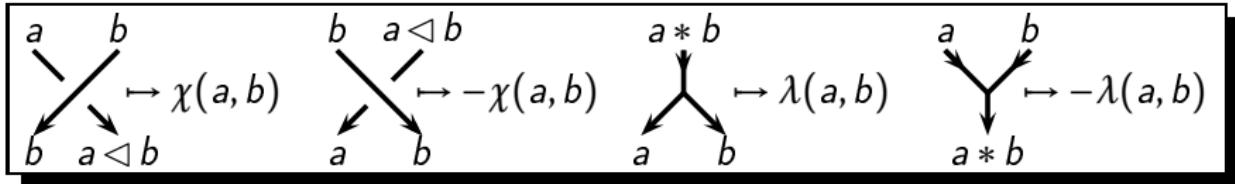
Qualgebra cocycle invariants for 3-graphs



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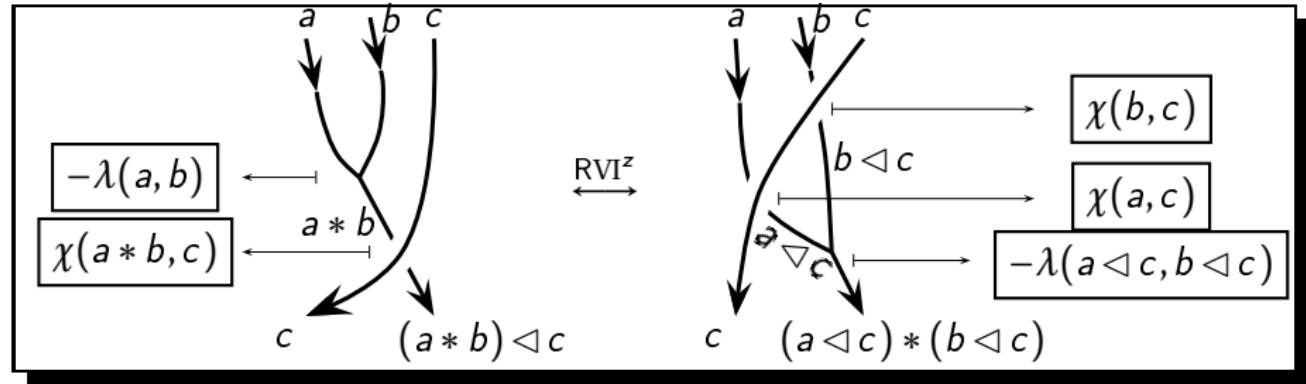
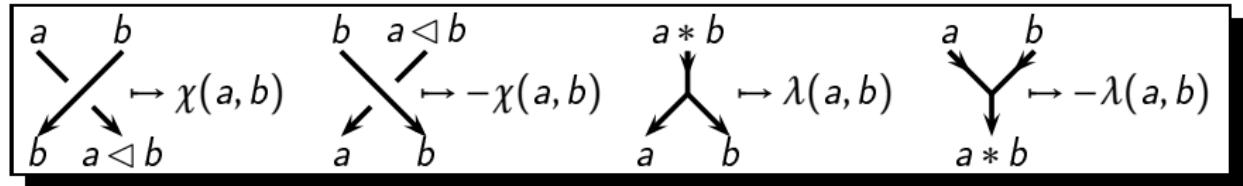


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$$RVI \leftrightarrow \chi(a * b, c) + \lambda(a \triangleleft c, b \triangleleft c) = \chi(a, c) + \chi(b, c) + \lambda(a, b)$$

$$RV \leftrightarrow \chi(a, b) + \lambda(a, b) = \lambda(b, a \triangleleft b)$$

Qualgebra cocycle invariants for 3-graphs



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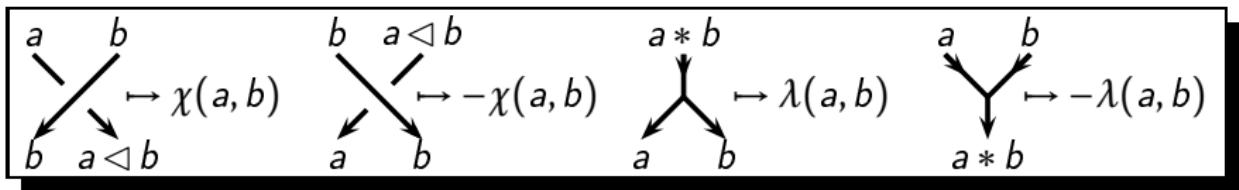
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**Qualgebra
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RI-RIII are automatic.

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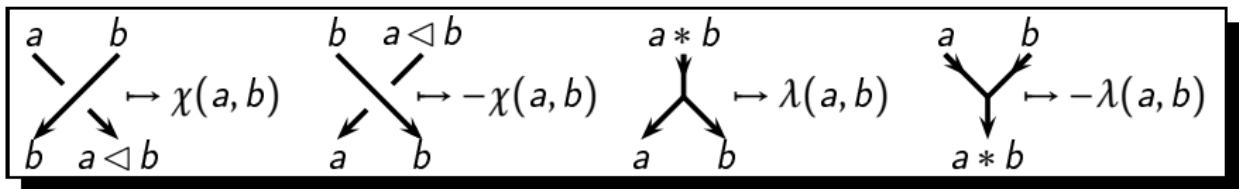
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3-graph invariants $\stackrel{\text{colorings}}{\rightsquigarrow} \stackrel{\text{weights}}{\rightsquigarrow}$ qualgebra & 2- or 3-cocycle

Qualgebra cocycle invariants for 3-graphs



$$\text{RIV} \leftrightarrow \chi(a, b * c) = \chi(a, b) + \chi(a \triangleleft b, c)$$

$$\text{RVI} \leftrightarrow \chi(a * b, c) + \lambda(a \triangleleft c, b \triangleleft c) = \chi(a, c) + \chi(b, c) + \lambda(a, b)$$

$$\text{RV} \leftrightarrow \chi(a, b) + \lambda(a, b) = \lambda(b, a \triangleleft b)$$

}

Qualgebra
2-cocycle

RI-RIII are automatic.

3-graph invariants $\stackrel{\text{colorings}}{\rightsquigarrow} \stackrel{\text{weights}}{\rightsquigarrow}$ qualgebra & 2- or 3-cocycle

Qualgebra cocycle invariants \supseteq qualgebra counting invariants.

Towards qualgebra cohomology

Qualgebra 2-coboundaries:

$$\begin{aligned}\phi : S \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} &\quad \rightsquigarrow \quad \chi(a, b) = \phi(a \triangleleft b) - \phi(a), & \rightsquigarrow & \text{trivial} \\ &\quad \lambda(a, b) = \phi(a) + \phi(b) - \phi(a * b) & & \text{graph invariants}\end{aligned}$$

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Towards qualgebra cohomology

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Towards qualgebra cohomology

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Enhancements

- ✿ Region coloring and shadow cocycle invariants \leadsto qualgebra 3-cocycles.

Towards qualgebra cohomology

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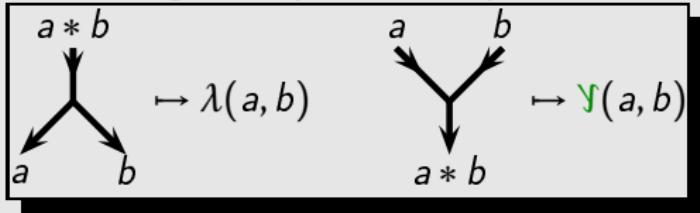
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Enhancements

- ✿ Region coloring and shadow cocycle invariants \rightsquigarrow qualgebra 3-cocycles.
- ✿ Distinguish zip- and unzip-vertices:



Quaglebra cocycles: example

Example 4

$$\begin{aligned}
 Q = \{p, q, r, s\} \quad & \bar{p} = q, \bar{q} = p, \bar{r} = r, \bar{s} = s; \\
 & x \triangleleft r = \bar{x}, \quad x \triangleleft y = x \text{ for other } y; \\
 & * \text{ is commutative,} \quad \bar{x} * \bar{y} = \overline{x * y}, \\
 & r * x = r \text{ for } x \neq r, \\
 & r * r = s * s = p * q = s, \quad p * p, p * s \in \{p, q, s\}
 \end{aligned}$$

- ✿ $Z^2(Q) \cong \mathbb{Z}^8$
- ✿ $B^2(Q) \cong \mathbb{Z}^4$
- ✿ $H^2(Q) \cong \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}^4$



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