# An introduction to Khovanov homology and annular links

#### Sergio García Rodrigo

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#### Definition

A knot K is a subset of  $\mathbb{R}^3$  homeomorphic to a circumference  $S^1$ . A link L is a finite disjoint union of knots  $L = K_1 \cup K_2 \cup \cdots \cup K_n$ .

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#### Definition

An annular knot K is a subset of the thickened annulus  $\mathbb{A} \times I$ homeomorphic to a circumference  $S^1$ . An annular link L is a finite disjoint union of annular knots  $L = K_1 \cup K_2 \cup \cdots \cup K_n$ .

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#### Definition

Two links  $L_1$  y  $L_2$  are equivalent if there exists an ambient isotopy  $F : \mathbb{R}^3 \times [0,1] \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  such that  $F(L_1,0) = L_1$  and  $F(L_1,1) = L_2$ .

Two diagrams are equivalent if they represent equivalent links.

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#### Definition

A link invariant is a function from the set of (annular) links whose value depends only on the equivalence class of the link.

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#### Theorem (Reidemeister, 1927)

Two diagrams D and D' represent equivalent links if and only if there is a finite sequence of Reidemeister moves that transform D into D'.

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We can orientate a link choosing an orientation for each component.



Given an oriented diagram D, we call writhe of D to the number of positive crossing p minus the number of negative crossings n of D, w(D) = p - n.

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3 Khovanov homology



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#### Definition

Let *D* be a non-oriented diagram. We define the Kauffman bracket of *D* as the polynomial  $\langle D \rangle \in \mathbb{Z}[A^{\pm 1}]$  that satisfies the following axioms:

 $(\bigcirc\rangle = 1,$  $(D \sqcup \bigcirc) = (-A^2 - A^{-2})\langle D \rangle,$  $(\bigcirc) = A \langle \smile \rangle + A^{-1} \langle \rangle \langle \rangle.$ 

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#### Definition

Let D be an oriented diagram of a link L. We define the Jones polynomial of D as

$$V(D) = (-A)^{-3w(D)} \langle D \rangle.$$

It is a link invariant.

#### Definition

Let D be an annular diagram. We define the annular Kauffman bracket of D as the polynomial  $\langle D \rangle_{\mathbb{A}} \in \mathbb{Z}[A^{\pm 1}, h]$  that satisfies the following axioms:

 $\begin{array}{l} \bullet \langle \cdot \bigcirc \rangle_{\mathbb{A}} = 1, \\ \bullet \langle \odot \rangle_{\mathbb{A}} = h, \\ \bullet \langle \smile \rangle_{\mathbb{A}} = A \langle \smile \rangle_{\mathbb{A}} + A^{-1} \langle \rangle (\rangle_{\mathbb{A}}, \\ \bullet \langle \cdot \bigcirc \sqcup D \rangle_{\mathbb{A}} = (-A^2 - A^{-2}) \langle \cdot D \rangle_{\mathbb{A}}, \\ \bullet \langle \odot \sqcup D \rangle_{\mathbb{A}} = (-A^2 - A^{-2}) h \langle \cdot D \rangle_{\mathbb{A}}. \end{array}$ 

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#### Definition (Hoste and Przytycki)

Let D be an annular diagram of an oriented annular link L. We define the annular Jones polynomial of D as

$$V_{\mathbb{A}}(D) = (-A)^{-3w(D)} \langle D \rangle_{\mathbb{A}}.$$

It is an annular link invariant.

If L is an annular link contained in a 3-ball in  $\mathbb{A} \times I$ , then  $V_{\mathbb{A}}(L) = V(L)$ .

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#### Definition

Let *D* be a diagram of a link *L*. We define the bracket polynomial *D* as the polynomial  $\langle D \rangle \in \mathbb{Z}[q^{\pm 1}]$  that satisfies the following axioms:

- $( ( \bigcirc ) ) = 1,$
- $( O \sqcup \bigcirc ) = (q + q^{-1}) \langle \! \langle D \rangle \! \rangle,$

$$( \langle \ \ \rangle \rangle = \langle \ \ \rangle \rangle - q \langle \ \ \rangle \rangle )$$

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#### Definition

Let D be a diagram of a link L, p and n the number of positive and negative crossings, respectively, of D. We define the normalized Jones polynomial (in the variable q) of L as

 $J(L) = (-1)^n q^{p-2n} \langle\!\langle D \rangle\!\rangle.$ 

#### Definition

Given a diagram D, a Kauffman state s of D is an assignment of a label 0 o 1 to each crossing of the diagram.

A 0-smoothing and a 1-smoothing is the result of swapping a crossing  $\times$  for  $\asymp$  and ) (, respectively.



Figure: Kauffman state 010 of the trefoil knot.

A Kauffman state of an annular diagram has two types of circles: Trivial circles, that bound a disk in the punctured plane. Essential circles, that do not bound a disk in the punctured plane.

$$\odot \bigcirc \longrightarrow \odot \bigcirc$$

$$J(L) = (-1)^n q^{p-2n} \sum_{s} (-q)^r (q+q^{-1})^{k-1},$$

where r is the height or number of 1-smoothings of s,
k is the number of circles in s,
p is the number of positive crossings,
n is the number of negative crossings.

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Khovanov complex:

$$\mathcal{C}(D) = \llbracket D \rrbracket [-n] \{p-2n\}.$$

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$$\Delta: \qquad \bigcirc \longmapsto \bigcirc \bigcirc \\ V \longrightarrow V \otimes V \\ v_+ \longmapsto v_+ \otimes v_- + v_- \otimes v_+, \\ v_- \longmapsto v_- \otimes v_-. \end{cases}$$

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$$\begin{array}{cccc} & & & & \bigcirc \\ m: & V \otimes V & \longrightarrow & V \\ & v_+ \otimes v_+ & \longmapsto & v_+, \\ & v_+ \otimes v_- & \longmapsto & v_-, \\ & v_- \otimes v_+ & \longmapsto & v_-, \\ & v_- \otimes v_- & \longmapsto & 0. \end{array}$$

$$\Delta: \qquad \begin{array}{cccc} \bigcirc & \longmapsto & \bigcirc \bigcirc \\ V & \longrightarrow & V \otimes V \\ v_{+} & \longmapsto & v_{+} \otimes v_{-} + v_{-} \otimes v_{+}, \\ v_{-} & \longmapsto & v_{-} \otimes v_{-}. \end{array}$$

 $d^r=\sum_{|\xi|=r}(-1)^{\xi}d_{\xi}.$ 



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#### Definition

Let D be a diagram of an oriented link L. We define the Khovanov homology,  $\mathcal{H}(D)$ , as the set of homology groups of  $\mathcal{C}(D)$ .

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#### Theorem (Khovanov, 2000)

The Khovanov homology  $\mathcal{H}^{r}(D)$  is a link invariant.

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#### Theorem (Khovanov, 2000)

The Khovanov homology  $\mathcal{H}^{r}(D)$  is a link invariant.

The graded Poincaré polynomial of  $\mathcal{C}(D)$ ,

 $\sum_{r} t^{r} \dim \mathcal{H}^{r}(D)$ 

is a link invariant that recovers the Jones polynomial:

$$\widetilde{J}(L) = \sum_{r} (-1)^{r} \dim \mathcal{H}^{r}(D).$$



$$\sum_{r} t^{r} \dim \mathcal{H}^{r}(\bigcirc) = t^{-3}q^{-9} + t^{-2}q^{-5} + q^{-3} + q^{-1}.$$

$$J(\bigcirc) = \frac{-q^{-6} + q^{-6} + q^{-6} + q^{-2}}{q + q^{-1}} = -q^{-8} + q^{-6} + q^{-2}.$$

Khovanov homology is a sharper invariant than Jones polynomial:

$$J(5_1) = J(10_{132}) = -q^{-7} + q^{-6} - q^{-5} + q^{-4} + q^{-2}$$



Figure: Diagram of 51.



Figure: Diagram of 10<sub>132</sub>.

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Khovanov homology is a sharper invariant than Jones polynomial:

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Khovanov homology is not a complete invariant: it doesn't distinguish Kinoshita-Terasaka's knot and Conway's knot.



#### Theorem (Kronheimer and Mrowka, 2010)

Khovanov homology detects the trivial knot.

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Annular Khovanov homology

We construct the resolution cube.

 $\bigcirc \rightarrow V = \langle v_+, v_- \rangle.$   $deg_q(v_+) = 1, deg_q(v_-) = -1,$   $deg_h(v_+) = 0 = deg_h(v_-).$   $deg_h(w_+) = 1, deg_h(w_-) = -1.$   $V_s(D) = V^{\otimes a} \otimes W^{\otimes b} \{r\}, \text{ where } a = \# \bigcirc, b = \# \bigodot.$ 

Annular Khovanov homology

We construct the resolution cube.

 $\bigcirc \rightarrow W = \langle w_+, w_- \rangle.$  $\bigcirc \rightarrow V = \langle v_+, v_- \rangle$ .  $\deg_{a}(v_{+}) = 1, \deg_{a}(v_{-}) = -1,$  $\deg_{\alpha}(w_{+}) = 0 = \deg_{\alpha}(w_{-}),$  $\deg_{h}(v_{+}) = 0 = \deg_{h}(v_{-}).$  $\deg_{h}(w_{\perp}) = 1, \deg_{h}(w_{\perp}) = -1.$  $V_{s}(D) = V^{\otimes a} \otimes W^{\otimes b}\{r\}, \text{ where } a = \#\bigcirc, b = \#\bigcirc.$  $\ldots \longrightarrow \llbracket D \rrbracket_{\mathbb{A}}^{r} \xrightarrow{d^{r}} \llbracket D \rrbracket_{\mathbb{A}}^{r+1} \xrightarrow{d^{r+1}} \ldots$  $\llbracket D \rrbracket_{\mathbb{A}}^{r} = \bigoplus V_{s}(D) = \bigoplus V^{\otimes a} \otimes W^{\otimes b} \{r\}.$ s:|s|=r s:|s|=r

Annular Khovanov complex:  $C_{\mathbb{A}}(D) = [[D]]_{\mathbb{A}}[-n]\{p-2n\}.$ 

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$$d^r=\sum_{|\xi|=r}(-1)^{\xi}d_{\xi}.$$

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#### Definition

Let D be an annular diagram of an oriented link L. We define the annular Khovanov homology of D,  $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbb{A}}(D)$ , as the set of homology groups of the annular Khovanov complex  $\mathcal{C}_{\mathbb{A}}(D)$ .

If *L* is an annular link contained in a 3-ball in  $\mathbb{A} \times I$ , then  $C_{\mathbb{A}}(D) = C(D)$ , hence  $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbb{A}}(L) = \mathcal{H}(L)$ .

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Let D be an annular diagram of an oriented link L. We define the annular Khovanov homology of D,  $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbb{A}}(D)$ , as the set of homology groups of the annular Khovanov complex  $\mathcal{C}_{\mathbb{A}}(D)$ .

#### Theorem (Asaeda, Przytycki and Sikora, 2004)

The annular Khovanov homology  $\mathcal{H}^r_{\mathbb{A}}(D)$  is an annular link invariant.

Annular Khovanov homology categorifies the annular Jones polynomial.

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#### Definition

Given a link L in the solid torus  $\mathbb{T}$ , we define the wrapping number of L, wrap(L), as the minimal intersection of L with a meridional disk of  $\mathbb{T}$ .



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#### Conjecture (Wrapping conjecture. Hoste and Przytycki, 1995)

Let L be an annular link. Then, the maximum annular degree of  $V_{\mathbb{A}}(L)$  coincides with the wrapping number of L. That is,

 $\max \deg_h V_{\mathbb{A}}(L) = wrap(L).$ 

#### Conjecture (Wrapping conjecture II)

Let L be an annular link. Then,

 $\max\{k | \mathcal{H}^{**k}(L) \text{ not trivial}\} = wrap(L).$ 

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## Thank you!

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