

## Knot invariants from homotopy theory

Danica Kosanović

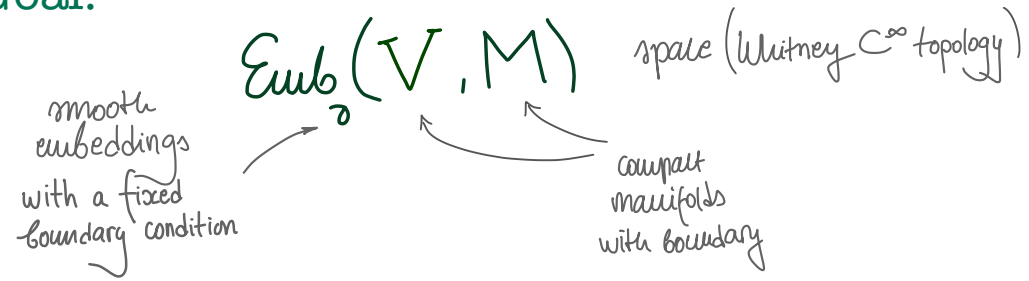
MPIM Bonn

29. 5. 2020.

Online TQFT  
IST Lisbon Seminar

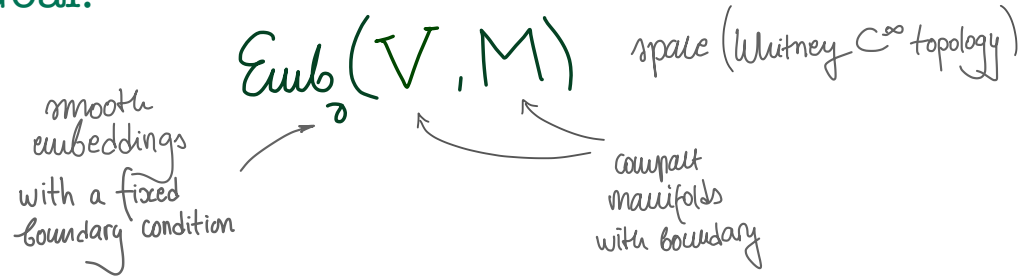
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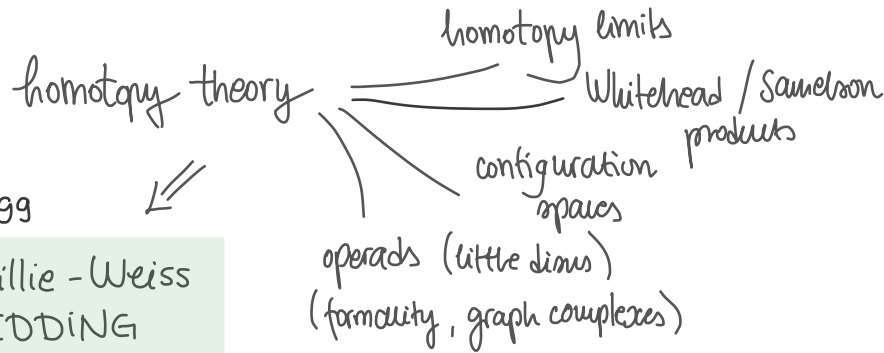


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Using:

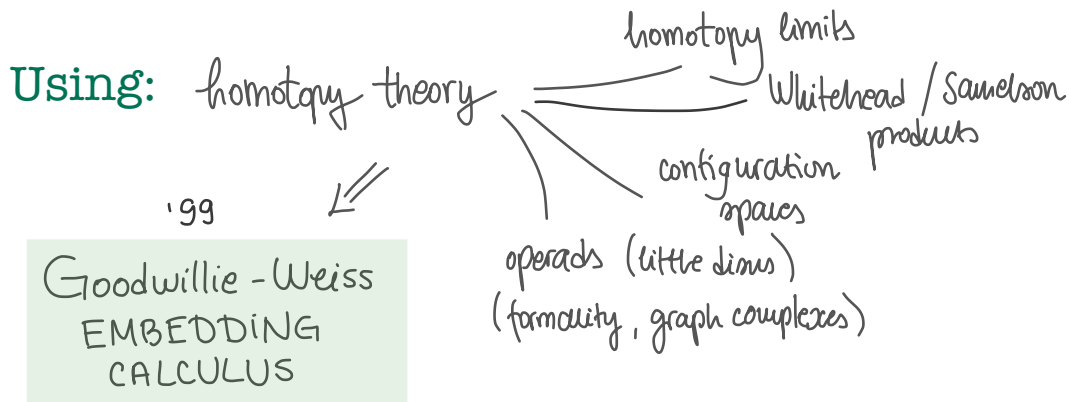
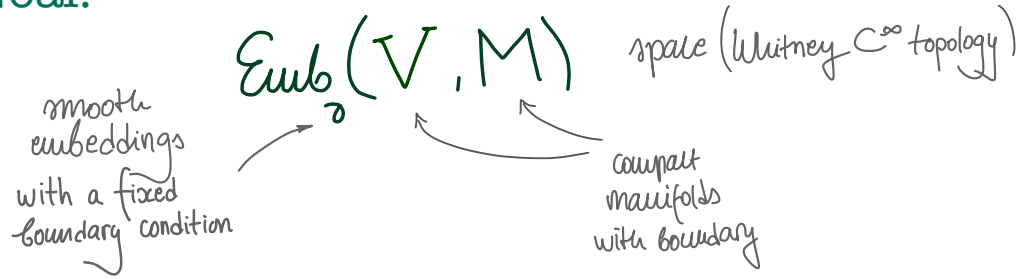


'99

Goodwillie - Weiss  
EMBEDDING  
CALCULUS

# Knot invariants from homotopy theory

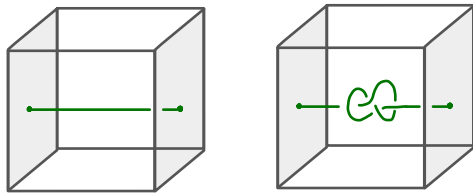
Goal:



In this talk: Give a geometric interpretation of GW calculus for  $\text{Emb}_2(I, M)$  for  $\dim M = 3$ .

& Relate to Vaniliev finite type invariants

In particular:  
 $M = I^3$

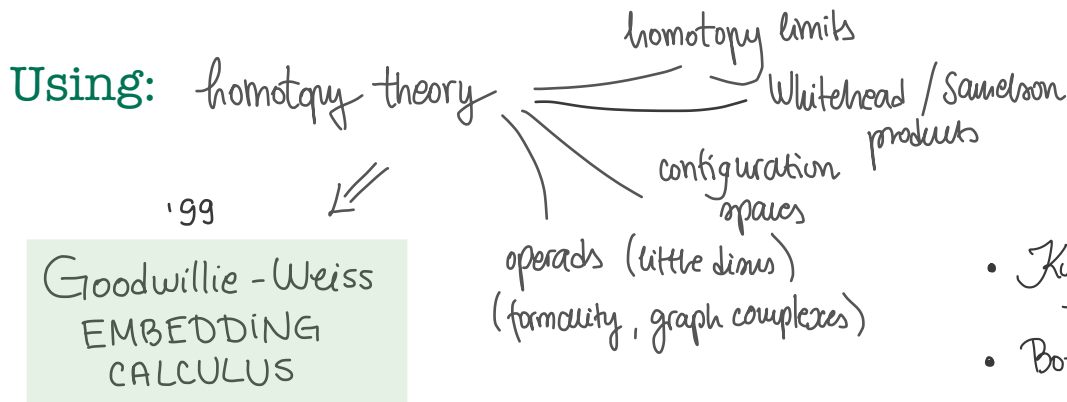
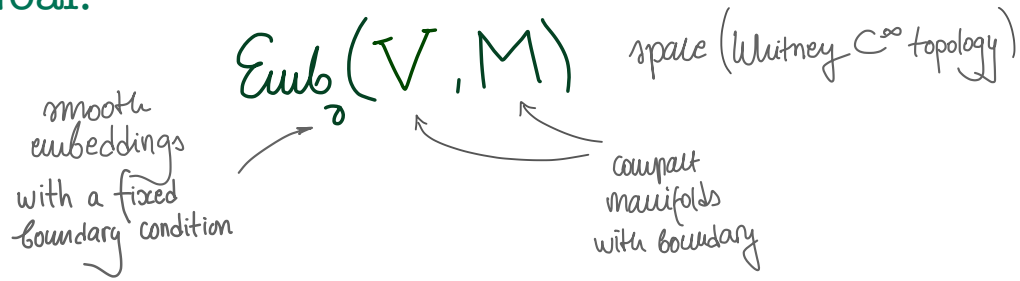


$$\pi_0 \text{Emb}(S^1, S^3) \cong \pi_0 \text{Emb}_2(I, I^3) = \text{knots} / \text{isotopy}$$

COMM. MoNoid

# Knot invariants from homotopy theory

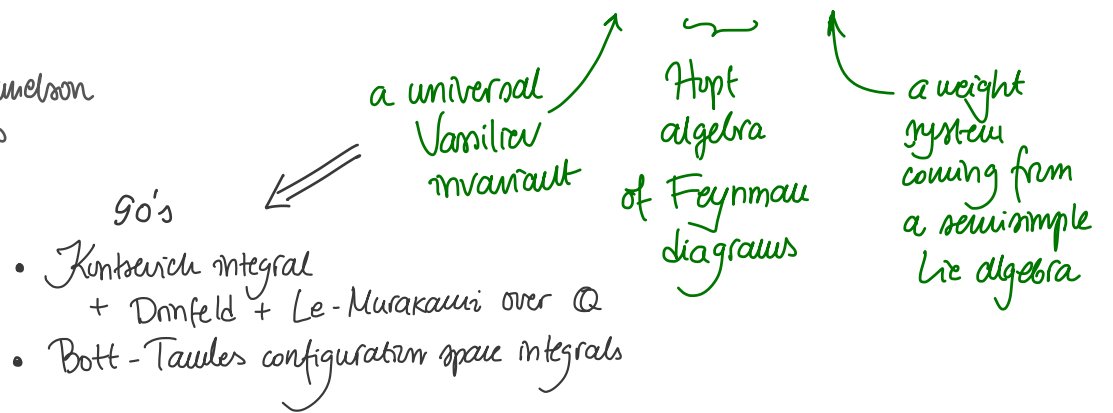
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Motivation:

All quantum invariants are finite type (Vassiliev) invariants.  
 $\Rightarrow$  Any quantum invariant can be calculated as the composite

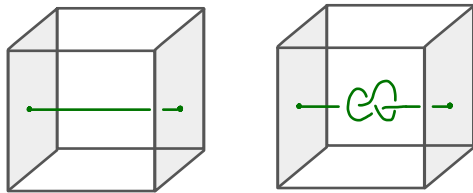
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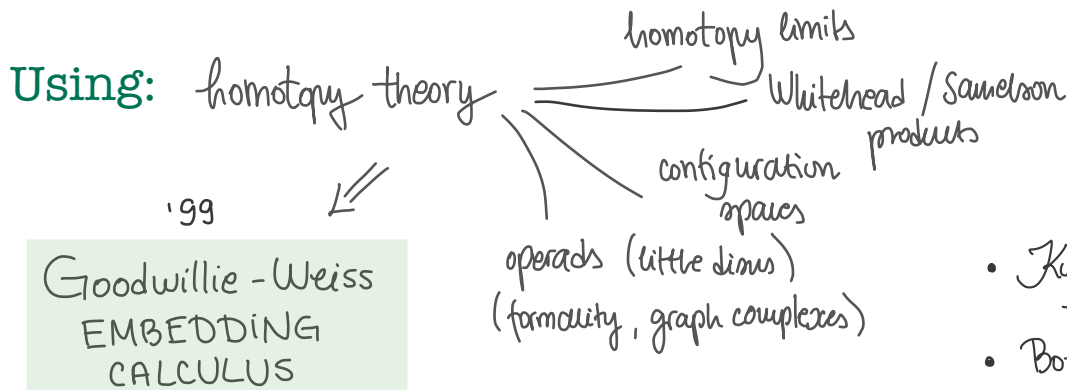
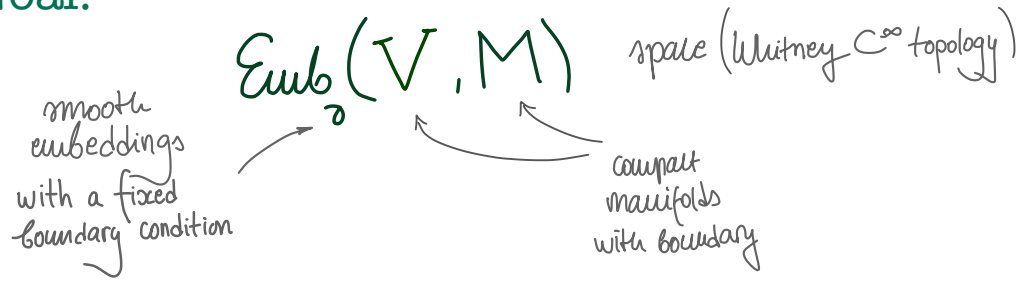


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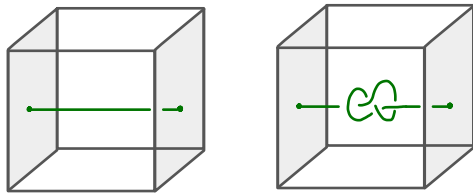
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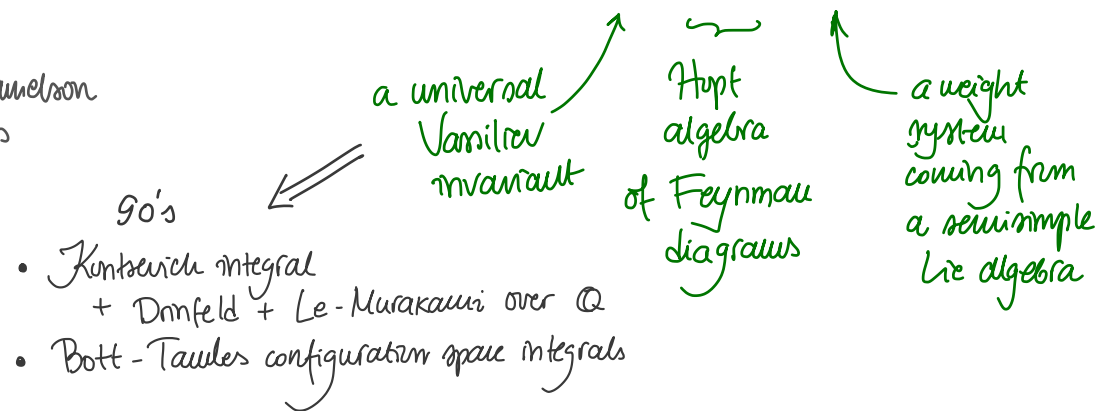
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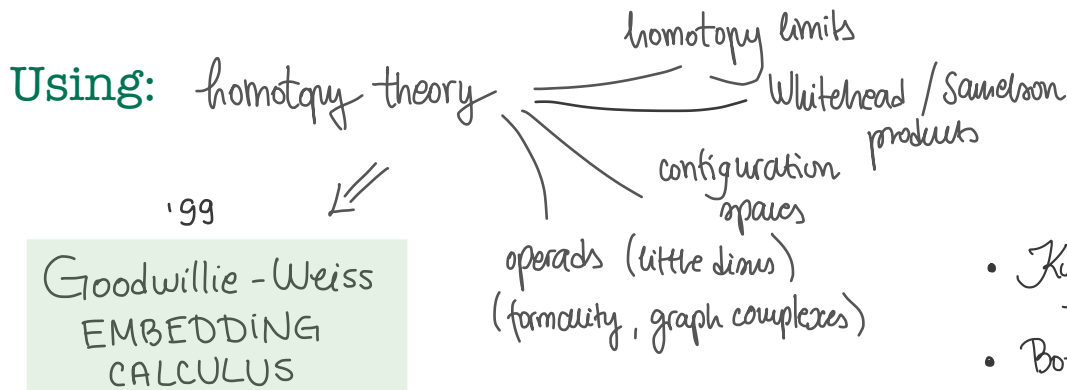
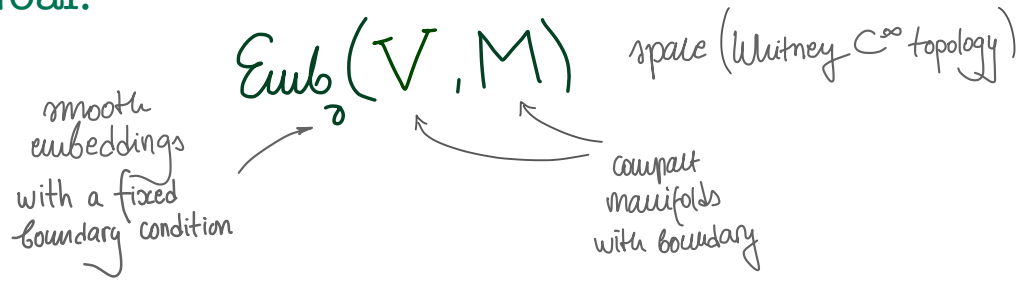


Questions: - Away from  $\text{char } k = 0$ ? torsion?  
 - Computations?  
 - Geometric meaning?

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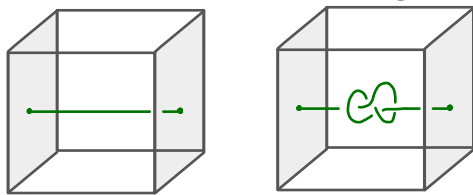
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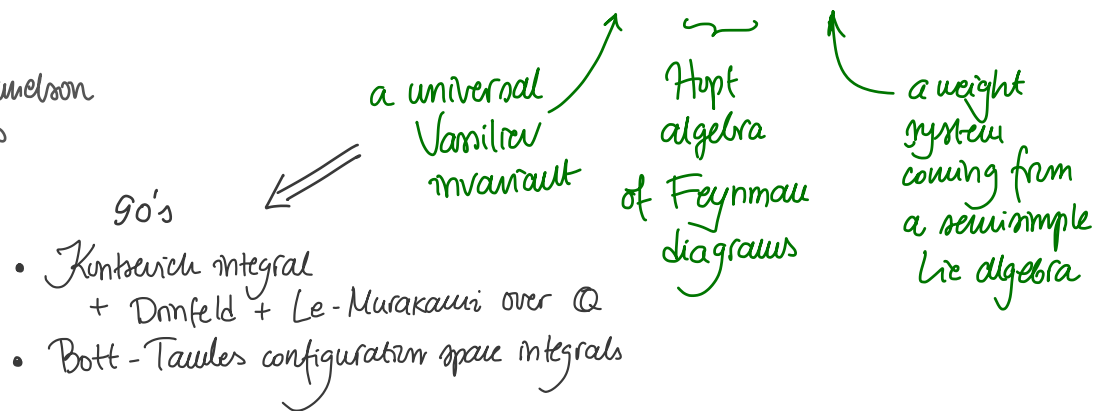
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Outline:

- 1° Introduce the main object of GW calculus: the Taylor tower  $\mathbb{P}_w(M)$ .
- 2° State the main theorem.
- 3° Explain consequences for Vassiliev theory.

## §1. The embedding calculus

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Emb}_2(V, M) & \xrightarrow{e_{\infty}} & P_{\infty}(V, M) \\ & \searrow e_2 & \downarrow \vdots \\ & & P_2(V, M) \\ & \searrow e_1 & \downarrow p_2 \\ & & P_1(V, M) = \mathcal{J}^{\text{mm}_2}(V, M) \end{array}$$



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Theorem [Goodwillie - Klein '15]

If  $(\dim V, \dim M) \neq (1, 3)$  then  
 $e_n$  is  $(3 - \dim M + (n+1)(\dim M - \dim V - 2))$ -connected.

Corollary

For  $\dim M - \dim V > 2$   $e_{\infty}$  is a weak equivalence.

\* Recall: a map is  $k$ -connected if it is an isomorphism on  $\pi_i$  ( $\forall i < k$ ) and a surjection on  $\pi_k$ .

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**Note:** - One can show  $e_{\infty}$  NOT a w.e. for  $\text{Emb}_2(I, I^3)$ .

- However, the formula predicts

For  $\dim M = 3$   $e_n: \text{Emb}_2(I, M) \rightarrow P_n(I, M)$  is 0-connected.

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- This will follow from a stronger result which considers:

### Theorem [Goodwillie - Klein '15]

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### Outline:

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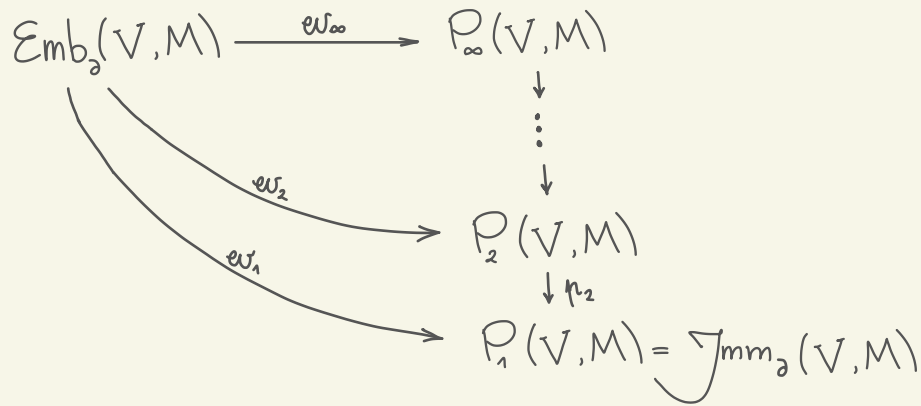
$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \text{hofib}_{e_{n-1}}(e_{n-1}) =: H_{n-1}(M) & \xrightarrow{e_n} & F_n(M) := \text{fib}_{e_{n-1}}(p_n) \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
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 \searrow e_{n-1} & & \swarrow p_n \\
 & & P_{n-1}(M) \quad \boxed{\text{surjective fibration}}
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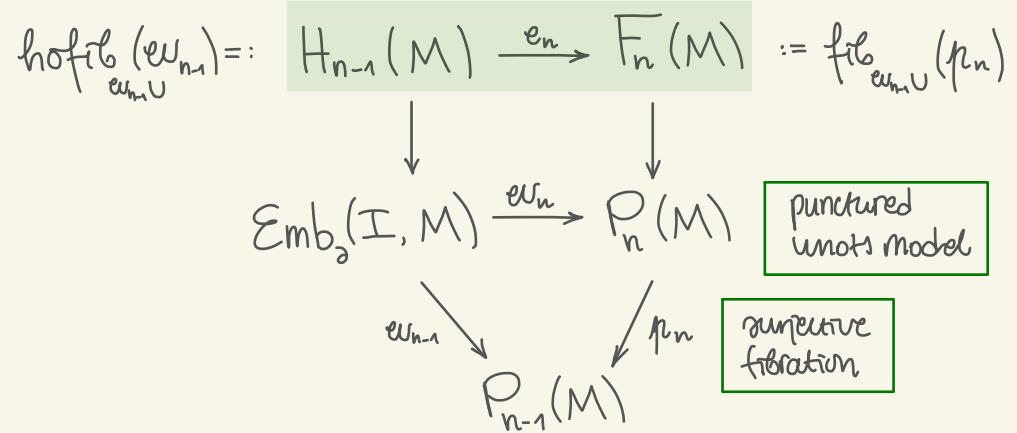
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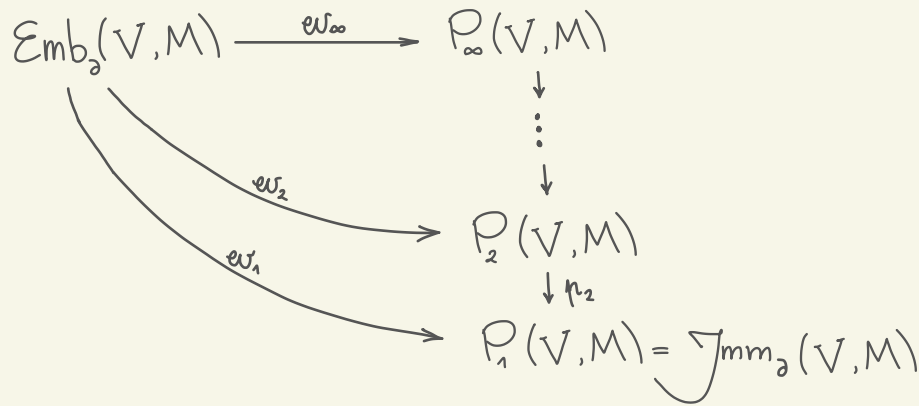
- I) compute  $\pi_0 F_n(M)$ : generated by trees
- II) construct explicit points in  $H_{n-1}(M)$  using GROPEs: modelled on trees
- III) MAIN THM:

$e_n$  maps a 'grope point' to its underlying tree

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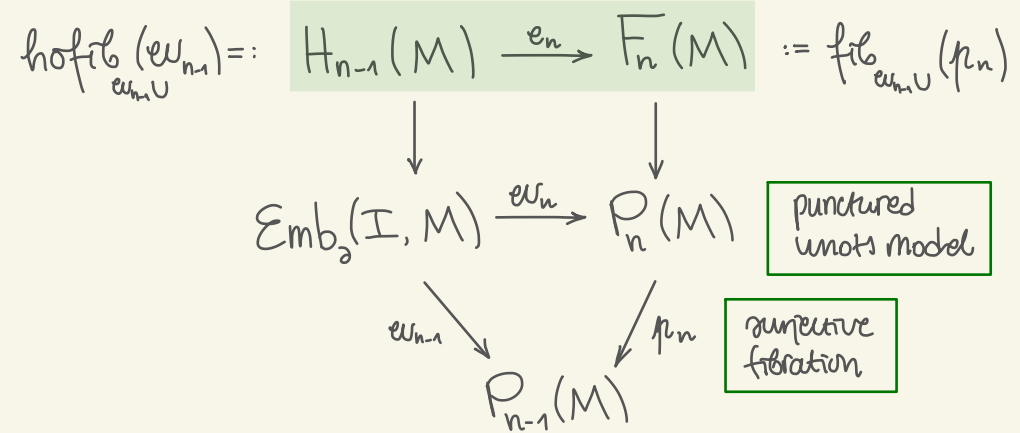
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## Proof of Thm A

Any tree can be realized by a grope  
 $\Rightarrow \pi_0 w_n$  is surjective  
 Diagram + induction. □

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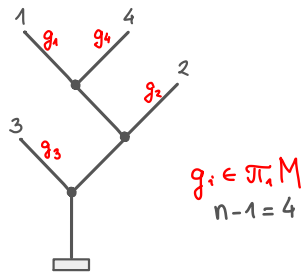
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$$\pi_0 \overline{F}_n(M) \cong \frac{\mathbb{Z}[\text{Tree}_{\pi, M}(n-1)]}{\text{AS, IHX}}$$

## §2. Results

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$$\pi_0 \mathbb{F}_n(M) \cong \frac{\mathbb{Z}[\text{Tree}_{\pi_1 M}(n-1)]}{\text{AS, IHX}}$$



$g_i \in \pi_1 M$   
 $n-1=4$

$\pi_1 M$ -decorated  
rooted planar  
binary trees

AS:

$$\begin{array}{c} \lceil 2 \\ \diagdown \\ \vdots \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \lceil 1 \\ \diagup \\ \vdots \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \lceil 1 \\ \diagdown \\ \vdots \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \lceil 2 \\ \diagup \\ \vdots \end{array} = 0$$

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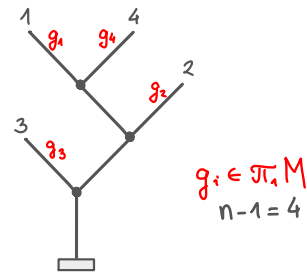
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$$\exists \text{Grop}_{h-1}(M; U) \xrightarrow{\psi} H_{h-1}(M)$$

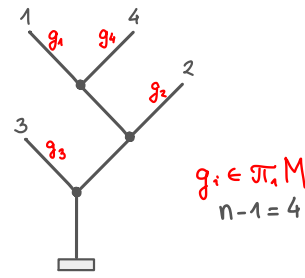
a space of thick gropes  
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(3D) gropes OR claspers are objects  
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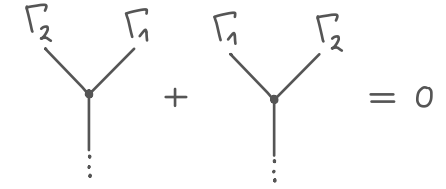
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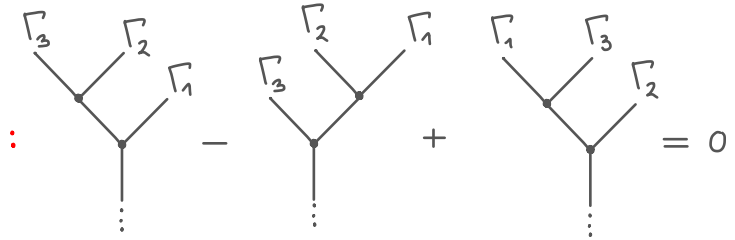


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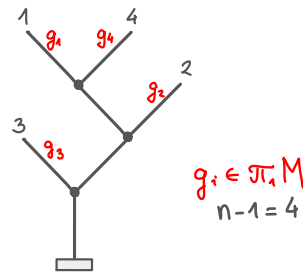
a space of thick gropes  
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**Definition** Two knots  $K, K' \in \text{Emb}_2(I, M)$  are  $n$ -equivalent if  $\exists G \in \text{Grop}_n(M; K)$  whose output is knot  $K'$ .  
 $K \sim_n K'$   $\rightsquigarrow$  see example on the last slide

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$\leadsto$  see example on the last slide

### III) Theorem D (main) [K]

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & & \mathbb{Z}[\text{Tree}_{\pi_1 M}(n-1)] & \\ & & \nearrow \text{uf}_{n-1} & \downarrow \text{mod AS, IHX} & \\ \pi_0 \text{Grop}_{h-1}(M; U) & \xrightarrow{\pi_0 \psi} & \pi_0 H_{n-1}(M) & \xrightarrow{\pi_0 \ell_n} & \pi_0 \mathcal{F}_n(M) \end{array}$$

$uf_{n-1}$

maps a thick grope to its  
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#### Corollary of Thm C

$\pi_0 \mathcal{U}_n$  is an invariant of geometric  $n$ -equivalence, i.e. it factors through

$$\pi_0 \text{Emb}_2(I, M) \Big/ \sim_n \xrightarrow{\bar{e}_n} \pi_0 \mathcal{P}_n(M)$$

Corollary of Thm C

$\pi_0 \mathcal{W}_n$  is an invariant of geometric  $n$ -equivalence, i.e. it factors through

$$\pi_0 \text{Emb}_2(I, M) \xrightarrow[\sim_n]{} \pi_0 \mathcal{P}_n(M) \xrightarrow{\bar{w}_n} \pi_0 \mathcal{P}_n(M)$$

Corollary of Corollary using [Habiro'00]

For  $M = I^3$   $\pi_0 \mathcal{W}_n$  is a Vassiliev invariant of type  $\leq n-1$ .

**Remark:** Shown by Budney-Conant-Koytcheff-Sinha '17

They also show:  $\pi_0 \mathcal{W}_n : \pi_0 \mathcal{K}(I^3) \longrightarrow \pi_0 \mathcal{P}_n(I^3)$  is a monoid map.

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They also show:  $\pi_0 \mathcal{W}_n : \pi_0 \mathcal{K}(I^3) \longrightarrow \pi_0 \mathcal{P}_n(I^3)$  is a monoid map.

**Conjecture** For  $M = I^3$   $\pi_0 \mathcal{W}_n$  is a universal additive invariant of type  $\leq n-1$  over  $\mathbb{Z}$ .  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \Leftrightarrow \pi_0 \mathcal{W}_n \text{ is a monoid map which factors through } \bar{e}_n \\ \text{and } \bar{e}_n \text{ is an isomorphism (of fin. gen. ab. gps).} \end{array} \right.$

**Remark:** Such invariants constructed so far only over  $\mathbb{Q}$  : Kontsevich / Bott-Taubes integrals.

Corollary of Thm C

$\pi_0 \mathcal{W}_n$  is an invariant of geometric  $n$ -equivalence, i.e. it factors through

$$\pi_0 \text{Emb}_2(I, M) \xrightarrow[\sim_n]{} \pi_0 \mathcal{P}_n(M) \xrightarrow{\bar{e}_n}$$

Corollary of Corollary using [Habiro'00]

For  $M = I^3$   $\pi_0 \mathcal{W}_n$  is a Vassiliev invariant of type  $\leq n-1$ .

**Remark:** Shown by Budney-Conant-Koytcheff-Sinha '17

They also show:  $\pi_0 \mathcal{W}_n : \pi_0 \mathcal{K}(I^3) \rightarrow \pi_0 \mathcal{P}_n(I^3)$  is a monoid map.

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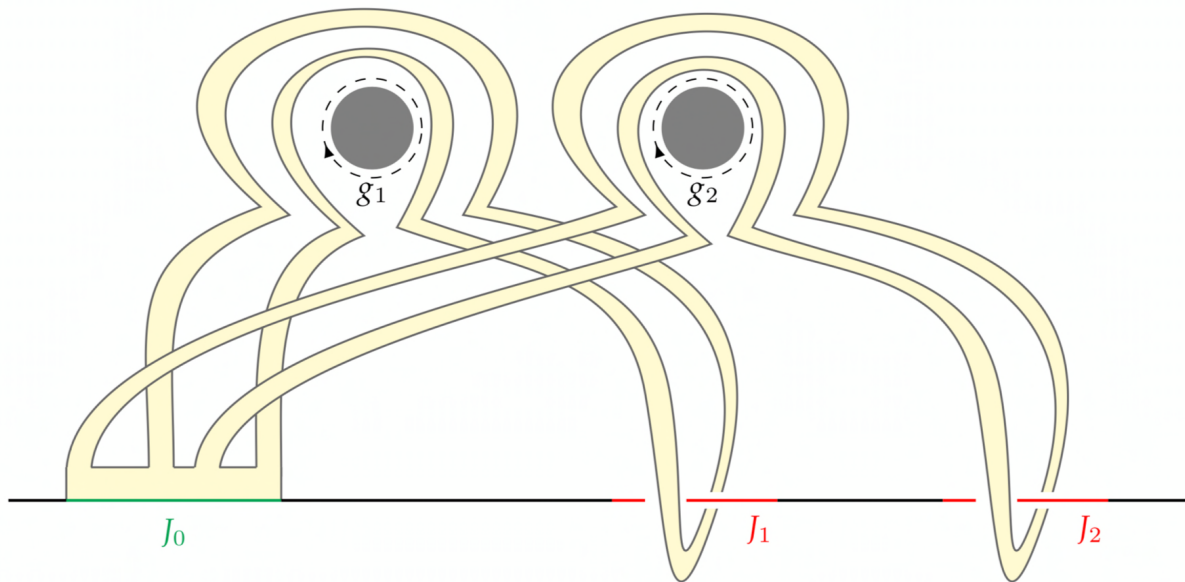
**Remark:** Such invariants constructed so far only over  $\mathbb{Q}$ : Kontsevich / Bott-Taubes integrals.

Corollary of Thm D

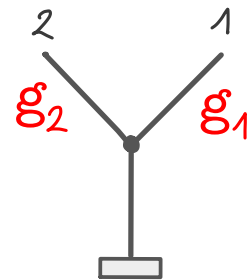
For  $M = I^3$

- 1°  $\bar{e}_n$  is surjective
- 2° CONJECTURE is TRUE over  $\mathbb{Q}$ :  $\pi_0 \text{Emb}_2(I, I^3) \otimes \mathbb{Q} \xrightarrow[\cong]{} \pi_0 \mathcal{P}_n(I^3) \otimes \mathbb{Q}$
- 3° CONJECTURE is TRUE over  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  in a RANGE:  $n \leq p+2$ .

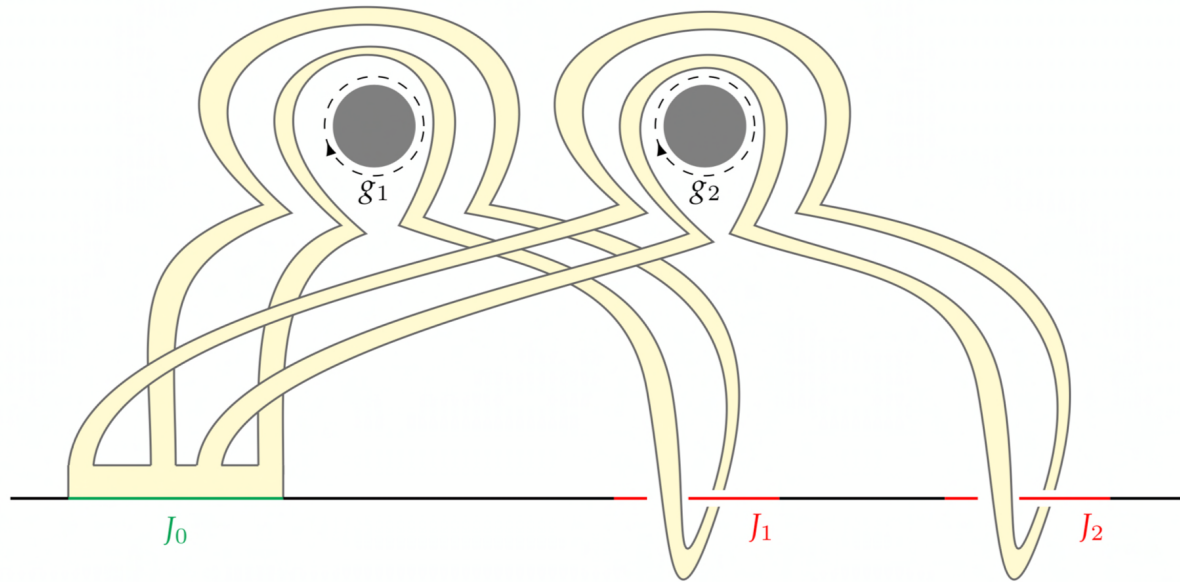
[Boavida de Brito - Horel]  $\Rightarrow$



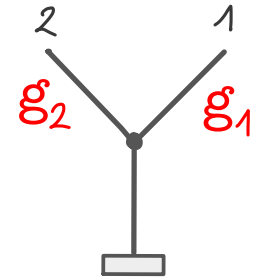
take  
the underlying  
tree



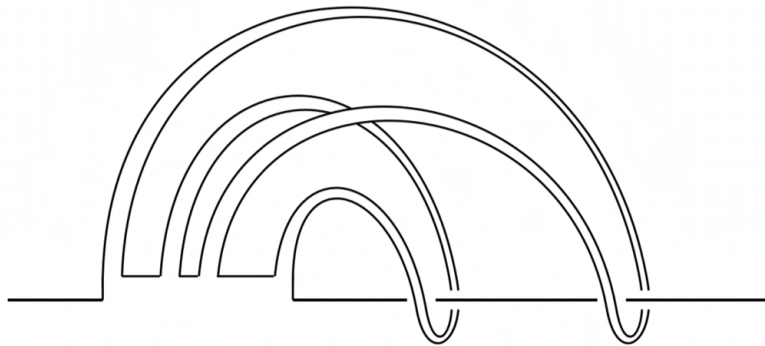




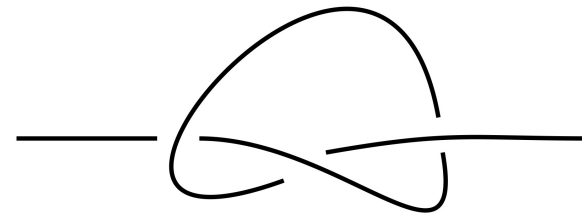
take  
the underlying  
tree



If group elements trivial get:



This is isotopic to:



Hence: trefoil is 2-equivalent to the unknot