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# COCYCLE KNOT INVARIANTS FROM QUANDLE MODULES AND GENERALIZED QUANDLE HOMOLOGY

Dedicated to Professor Yukio Matsumoto for his 60th birthday

J. SCOTT CARTER, MOHAMED ELHAMDADI, MATIAS GRAÑA and MASAHICO SAITO

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**Abstract**

Three new knot invariants are defined using cocycles of the generalized quandle homology theory that was proposed by Andruskiewitsch and Graña. We specialize that theory to the case when there is a group action on the coefficients.

First, quandle modules are used to generalize Burau representations and Alexander modules for classical knots. Second, 2-cocycles valued in non-abelian groups are used in a way similar to Hopf algebra invariants of classical knots. These invariants are shown to be of quantum type. Third, cocycles with group actions on coefficient groups are used to define quandle cocycle invariants for both classical knots and knotted surfaces. Concrete computational methods are provided and used to prove non-invertibility for a large family of knotted surfaces. In the classical case, the invariant can detect the chirality of 3-colorable knots in a number of cases.

## 1. Introduction

Quandle cohomology theory was developed [10] to define invariants of classical knots and knotted surfaces in state-sum form, called quandle cocycle (knot) invariants. The quandle cohomology theory is a modification of rack cohomology theory which was defined in [17], and studied from different perspectives. The cocycle knot invariants are analogous in their definitions to the Dijkgraaf-Witten invariants [13] of triangulated 3-manifolds with finite gauge groups, but they use quandle knot colorings as spins and cocycles as Boltzmann weights.

Two types of topological applications of cocycle knot invariants have been established and are being investigated actively: non-invertibility [10, 39] and the minimal triple point numbers [40] of knotted surfaces. A knot is *non-invertible* if it is not equivalent to itself with the orientation reversed while the orientation of the space is preserved. In both applications, quandle cocycle invariants produced results that are not obtained by other known methods; specifically, all known methods (e.g., [15, 19, 30, 38]) of proving non-invertibility of knotted surfaces do not apply directly to non-spherical knots (except Kawauchi's [28, 29] generalization of the Farber-Levine pairing). Furthermore concrete methods to compute these have been implemented via computers. The triple point numbers (the minimal number of triple points in projec-

tions) have been determined for some knotted surfaces for the first time by using the quandle cocycle invariants.

In this paper, we generalize the quandle cocycle invariants in three different directions, using generalizations of quandle homology theory provided by Andruskiewitsch and Graña [1], and Rourke and Sanderson ([37], and private communication). The original and the generalized quandle homology theories can be compared to group cohomology theories, with trivial and non-trivial group actions on coefficient groups, respectively. Thus the generalization of the homology theory and knot invariants are substantial and essential; the original case is only the very special case when the action is trivial. Examples in wreath product of groups are given in Section 3 after preliminaries are provided in Section 2. Algebraic aspects of these examples are also studied. The three directions of generalizations are as follows. First, the actions of quandle modules (defined below) are regarded as generalizations of the Burau representation of braid groups. Thus we define invariants for classical knots, in Section 4, using such quandle modules, in a similar manner as Alexander modules are defined from Burau representations. Second, quandle 2-cocycles with non-abelian coefficients are used to define invariants for classical knots, defined in a similar manner as invariants defined from Hopf algebras [27], by sliding beads on knot diagrams, in Section 5. Generalizations of quandle cocycle invariants are given for classical knots in Section 6 and for knotted surfaces in Section 7, respectively. Computational methods, examples, and applications are provided. The invariant for the classical knots detect chirality of the 3-colorable knots through 9-crossings. As a main application of the invariant for knotted surfaces, we show that majority of $2k$-twist spun of 3-colorable knots in the classical knot table up to 9 crossings, as well as surfaces obtained from them by attaching trivial 1-handles, are non-invertible.

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## 2. Preliminary

**Quandles and knot colorings.** A *quandle*, $X$, is a set with a binary operation $(a, b) \mapsto a * b$ such that

(I) For any $a \in X$, $a * a = a$.

(II) For any $a$, $b \in X$, there is a unique $c \in X$ such that $a = c * b$.

(III) For any $a$, $b$, $c \in X$, we have $(a * b) * c = (a * c) * (b * c)$.

A *rack* is a set with a binary operation that satisfies (II) and (III).

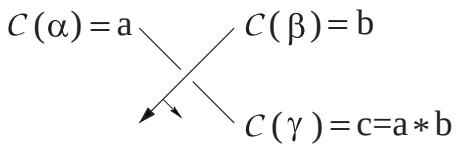


Fig. 1. Quandle relation at a crossing

Racks and quandles have been studied in, for example, [4, 16, 25, 26, 34]. The axioms for a quandle correspond respectively to the Reidemeister moves of type I, II, and III (see [16, 26], for example). Quandle structures have been found in areas other than knot theory, see [1] and [4].

In Axiom (II), the element $c$ that is uniquely determined from given $a, b \in X$ such that $a = c * b$, is denoted by $c = a \bar{*} b$. A function $f\colon X \to Y$ between quandles or racks is a *homomorphism* if $f(a * b) = f(a) * f(b)$ for any $a, b \in X$.

The following are typical examples of quandles. A group $X = G$ with $n$-fold conjugation as the quandle operation: $a * b = b^n a b^{-n}$ or $a * b = b^{-n} a b^n$. We denote by $\mathrm{Conj}(G)$ the quandle defined for a group $G$ by $a * b = bab^{-1}$. Any subset of $G$ that is closed under such conjugation is also a quandle.

Any $\Lambda(= \mathbb{Z}[t, t^{-1}])$-module $M$ is a quandle with $a * b = ta + (1-t)b$, $a, b \in M$, that is called an *Alexander quandle*. For a positive integer $n$, $\mathbb{Z}_n[t, t^{-1}]/(h(t))$ is a quandle for a Laurent polynomial $h(t)$. It is finite if the coefficients of the highest and lowest degree terms of $h$ are units in $\mathbb{Z}_n$.

Let $n$ be a positive integer, and for elements $i, j \in \{0, 1, \ldots, n-1\}$, define $i * j \equiv 2j - i \pmod{n}$. Then $*$ defines a quandle structure called the *dihedral quandle*, $R_n$. This set can be identified with the set of reflections of a regular $n$-gon with conjugation as the quandle operation, but also is isomorphic to an Alexander quandle $\mathbb{Z}_n[t, t^{-1}]/(t+1)$. As a set of reflections of the regular $n$-gon, $R_n$ can be considered as a subquandle of $\mathrm{Conj}(\Sigma_n)$ where $\Sigma_n$ denotes the symmetric group on $n$ letters.

Let $X$ be a fixed quandle. Let $K$ be a given oriented classical knot or link diagram, and let $\mathcal{R}$ be the set of (over-)arcs. A vector perpendicular to an arc in the diagram is called a *normal* or *normal vector*. We choose the normal so that the ordered pair (tangent, normal) agrees with the orientation of the plane. This normal is called the *orientation normal*. A (quandle) *coloring* $\mathcal{C}$ is a map $\mathcal{C}\colon \mathcal{R} \to X$ such that at every crossing, the relation depicted in Fig. 1 holds. More specifically, let $\beta$ be the over-arc at a crossing, and $\alpha$, $\gamma$ be under-arcs such that the normal of the over-arc points from $\alpha$ to $\gamma$. (In this case, $\alpha$ is called the *source arc* and $\gamma$ is called the *target arc*.) Then it is required that $\mathcal{C}(\gamma) = \mathcal{C}(\alpha) * \mathcal{C}(\beta)$. The color $\mathcal{C}(\gamma)$ depends only on the choice of orientation of the over-arc; therefore this rule defines the coloring at both positive and negative crossings. The colors $\mathcal{C}(\alpha)$, $\mathcal{C}(\beta)$ are called *source* colors.

**Quandle Modules.** We recall some information from [1], but with notation changed to match our conventions.

Let $X$ be a quandle. Let $\Omega(X)$ be the free $\mathbb{Z}$-algebra generated by $\eta_{x,y}, \tau_{x,y}$ for $x, y \in X$ such that $\eta_{x,y}$ is invertible for every $x, y \in X$. Define $\mathbb{Z}(X)$ to be the quotient $\mathbb{Z}(X) = \Omega(X)/R$ where $R$ is the ideal generated by

1. $$\eta_{x*y,z}\eta_{x,y} - \eta_{x*z,y*z}\eta_{x,z}$$
2. $$\eta_{x*y,z}\tau_{x,y} - \tau_{x*z,y*z}\eta_{y,z}$$
3. $$\tau_{x*y,z} - \eta_{x*z,y*z}\tau_{x,z} - \tau_{x*z,y*z}\tau_{y,z}$$
4. $$\tau_{x,x} + \eta_{x,x} - 1$$

The algebra $\mathbb{Z}(X)$ thus defined is called the *quandle algebra* over $X$. In $\mathbb{Z}(X)$, we define elements $\overline{\eta_{z,y}} = \eta^{-1}_{z\bar{*}y,y}$ and $\overline{\tau_{z,y}} = -\overline{\eta_{z,y}}\tau_{z\bar{*}y,y}$. The convenience of such quantities will become apparent by examining type II moves.

A *representation* of $\mathbb{Z}(X)$ is an abelian group $G$ together with (1) a collection of automorphisms $\eta_{x,y} \in \mathrm{Aut}(G)$, and (2) a collection of endomorphisms $\tau_{x,y} \in \mathrm{End}(G)$ such that the relations above hold. More precisely, there is an algebra homomorphism $\mathbb{Z}(X) \to \mathrm{End}(G)$, and we denote the image of the generators by the same symbols. Given a representation of $\mathbb{Z}(X)$ we say that $G$ is a $\mathbb{Z}(X)$-module, or *a quandle module*. The action of $\mathbb{Z}(X)$ on $G$ is written by the left action, and denoted by $(\rho, g) \mapsto \rho g$ $(= \rho \cdot g = \rho(g))$, for $g \in G$ and $\rho \in \mathrm{End}(G)$.

EXAMPLE 2.1 ([1]). Let $\Lambda = \mathbb{Z}[t, t^{-1}]$ denote the ring of Laurent polynomials. Then any $\Lambda$-module $M$ is a $\mathbb{Z}(X)$-module for any quandle $X$, by $\eta_{x,y}(a) = ta$ and $\tau_{x,y}(b) = (1-t)(b)$ for any $x, y \in X$.

The group $G_X = \langle x \in X \mid x * y = yxy^{-1} \rangle$ is called the *enveloping group* [1] (and the *associated group* in [16]). For any quandle $X$, any $G_X$-module $M$ is a $\mathbb{Z}(X)$-module by $\eta_{x,y}(a) = ya$ and $\tau_{x,y}(b) = (1 - x * y)(b)$, where $x, y \in X$, $a, b \in M$.

We invite the reader to examine Figs. 2 and 3 to see the geometric motivation for the quandle module axioms. For the time being, ignore the terms $\kappa_{x,y}$ in the figures. Detailed explanations of these figures will be given in Section 4.

**Generalized quandle homology theory.** Consider the free left $\mathbb{Z}(X)$-module $C_n(X) = \mathbb{Z}(X)X^n$ with basis $X^n$ (for $n = 0$, $X^0$ is a singleton $\{x_0\}$, for a fixed element $x_0 \in X$). In [1], boundary operators $\partial = \partial_n \colon C_{n+1}(X) \to C_n(X)$ are defined by

$$\partial(x_1, \ldots, x_{n+1}) = (-1)^{n+1} \sum_{i=2}^{n+1} (-1)^i \eta_{[x_1,\ldots,\widehat{x_i},\ldots,x_{n+1}],[x_i,\ldots,x_{n+1}]}(x_1, \ldots, \widehat{x_i}, \ldots, x_{n+1})$$
$$- (-1)^{n+1} \sum_{i=2}^{n+1} (-1)^i (x_1 * x_i, \ldots, x_{i-1} * x_i, x_{i+1}, \ldots, x_{n+1})$$

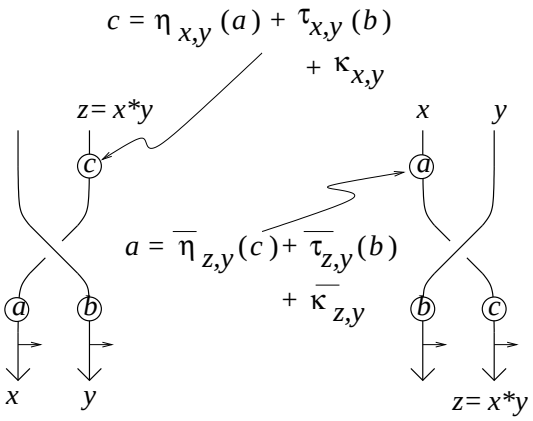


Fig. 2. The geometric notation at a crossing

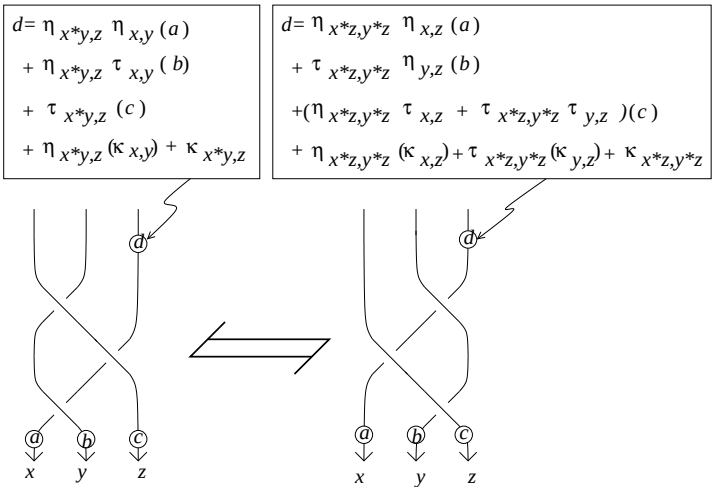


Fig. 3. Reidemeister moves and the quandle algebra definition

$$+ (-1)^{n+1}\tau_{[x_1,x_3,\ldots,x_{n+1}],[x_2,x_3,\ldots,x_{n+1}]}(x_2, \ldots, x_{n+1}),$$

where

$$[x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n] = ((\cdots(x_1 * x_2) * x_3) * \cdots) * x_n$$

for $n > 0$, and $\partial_0(x) = -\tau_{x*\bar{x}_0,x_0}x_0$ for $n = 0$. The notational conventions are slightly different from [1]. In particular, the condition to be a 2-cocycle for a 2-cochain $\kappa\colon C_2(X) \to \mathbb{Z}(X)$ (or $(\kappa\colon C_2(X) \to G) \in C^2(X;G) = \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}(X)}(C_2(X), G)$ when a representation $\mathbb{Z}(X) \to G$ is fixed to define the twisted coefficients) in this homology

theory is written as $\kappa_{x,y}$

$$\eta_{x*y,z}(\kappa_{x,y}) + \kappa_{x*y,z} = \eta_{x*z,y*z}(\kappa_{x,z}) + \tau_{x*z,y*z}(\kappa_{y,z}) + \kappa_{x*z,y*z},$$

in $\mathbb{Z}(X)$ (or in $G$) for any $x$, $y$, $z \in X$, where $\kappa_{x,y}$ means $\kappa(x, y)$ for $(x, y) \in X^2$. We call this a *generalized* (*rack*) 2-*cocycle condition*. When $\kappa$ further satisfies $\kappa_{x,x} = 0$ for any $x \in X$, we call it a *generalized quandle* 2-*cocycle*.

**Dynamical cocycles.** Let $X$ be a quandle and $S$ be a non-empty set. Let $\alpha\colon X \times X \to \mathrm{Fun}(S \times S, S) = S^{S\times S}$ be a function, so that for $x, y \in X$ and $a, b \in S$ we have $\alpha_{x,y}(a, b) \in S$.

Then it is checked by computations that $S \times X$ is a quandle by the operation $(a, x) * (b, y) = (\alpha_{x,y}(a, b), x * y)$, where $x * y$ denotes the quandle product in $X$, if and only if $\alpha$ satisfies the following conditions:

1. $\alpha_{x,x}(a, a) = a$ for all $x \in X$ and $a \in S$;
2. $\alpha_{x,y}(-, b)\colon S \to S$ is a bijection for all $x, y \in X$ and for all $b \in S$;
3. $\alpha_{x*y,z}(\alpha_{x,y}(a, b), c) = \alpha_{x*z,y*z}(\alpha_{x,z}(a, c), \alpha_{y,z}(b, c))$ for all $x, y, z \in X$ and $a, b, c \in S$.

Such a function $\alpha$ is called a *dynamical quandle cocycle* [1]. The quandle constructed above is denoted by $S \times_\alpha X$, and is called the *extension* of $X$ by a dynamical cocycle $\alpha$. The construction is general, as Andruskiewitsch and Graña show:

**Lemma 2.2** ([1]). *Let $p\colon Y \to X$ be a surjective quandle homomorphism between finite quandles such that the cardinality of $p^{-1}(x)$ is a constant for all $x \in X$. Then $Y$ is isomorphic to an extension $S \times_\alpha X$ of $X$ by some dynamical cocycle on the set $S$ such that $|S| = |p^{-1}(x)|$.*

EXAMPLE 2.3 ([1]). Let $G$ be a $\mathbb{Z}(X)$-module for the quandle $X$, and $\kappa$ be a generalized 2-cocycle. For $a, b \in G$, let

$$\alpha_{x,y}(a, b) = \eta_{x,y}(a) + \tau_{x,y}(b) + \kappa_{x,y}.$$

Then it can be verified directly that $\alpha$ is a dynamical cocycle. In particular, even with $\kappa = 0$, a $\mathbb{Z}(X)$-module structure on the abelian group $G$ defines a quandle structure $G \times_\alpha X$.

## 3. Group extensions and quandle modules

The purpose of this section is to provide examples of quandle modules and cocycles from group extensions and group cocycles. Let $0 \to N \xrightarrow{i} E \xrightarrow{\pi} H \to 1$ be a short exact sequence of groups that expresses the group $E$ as a twisted semidirect product $E = N \rtimes_\theta H$ by a group 2-cocycle $\theta$, where $N$ is an abelian group (see page 91 of [5]). Thus we have a set-theoretic section $s\colon H \to E$ that is normalized, in

the sense that $s(1_H) = 1_E$, and the elements of $E$ can be written as pairs $(a, x)$ where $a \in N$ and $x \in H$, by the bijection $(a, x) \mapsto i(a)s(x)$. We have

$$s(x)s(y) = i(\theta(x, y))s(xy), \quad x, y \in H,$$

and the multiplication rule in $E$ is given by $(a, x)\cdot(b, y) = (a+x(b)+\theta(x, y), xy)$, where $x(b)$ denotes the action of $H$ on $N$ that gives $E$ the structure of a twisted semi-direct product, $E = N \rtimes_\theta H$. Recall here that the group 2-cocycle condition is

$$\theta(x, y) + \theta(xy, z) = x\theta(y, z) + \theta(x, yz), \quad x, y, z \in H.$$

Let $0 \to N \xrightarrow{i} E \xrightarrow{\pi} H \to 1$ be an exact sequence, and $E = N \rtimes_\theta H$ be the corresponding twisted semi-direct product. Consider $E$ and $H$ as quandles, $\mathrm{Conj}(E)$ and $\mathrm{Conj}(H)$, respectively, where $a * b = bab^{-1}$. Lemma 2.2 implies that $E$ is an extension of $H$ by a dynamical cocycle $\alpha\colon H \times H \to N^{N\times N}$.

**Proposition 3.1.** *The dynamical cocycle $\alpha$, in this case, is written by $\alpha_{x,y}(a, b) = \eta_{x,y}(a) + \tau_{x,y}(b) + \kappa_{x,y}$ for any $x$, $y \in H$ and $a$, $b \in N$, where $\eta_{x,y}(a) = ya$, $\tau_{x,y}(b) = (1 - x * y)(b)$, and*

$$\kappa_{x,y} = \theta(y, x) - yx\theta(y^{-1}, y) + \theta(yx, y^{-1}).$$

*Similarly, if the quandle structure is defined by $r * s = s^{-1}rs$, then we obtain $\eta_{x,y}(a) = y^{-1}a$, $\tau_{x,y}(b) = (y^{-1}x - y^{-1})(b)$ and*

$$\kappa_{x,y} = -\theta(y^{-1}, y) + y^{-1}\theta(x, y) + \theta(y^{-1}, xy).$$

Proof. For $(b, y) \in E$, one has

$$(b, y)^{-1} = \left(-y^{-1}(b) - \theta(y^{-1}, y), y^{-1}\right) = \left(-y^{-1}(b) - y^{-1}\theta(y, y^{-1}), y^{-1}\right),$$

and one computes

$$\begin{aligned}(a, x) * (b, y) &= (b, y)(a, x)(b, y)^{-1} \\ &= \left(b + y(a) - (yxy^{-1})(b) + \theta(y, x) - yx\theta(y^{-1}, y) + \theta(yx, y^{-1}), yxy^{-1}\right)\end{aligned}$$

so that

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha_{x,y}(a, b) &= \eta_{x,y}(a) + \tau_{x,y}(b) + \kappa_{x,y} \\ &= y(a) + (1 - x * y)(b) + \left[\theta(y, x) - yx\theta(y^{-1}, y) + \theta(yx, y^{-1})\right],\end{aligned}$$

and we obtain the formulas. Note that by expanding the terms $(a, x)(b, y)^{-1}$ first, we obtain an equivalent formula

$$\kappa_{x,y} = -yx\theta(y^{-1}, y) + y\theta(x, y^{-1}) + \theta(y, xy^{-1}),$$

which follows from the group 2-cocycle condition from the first formula, as well. The second case is similar. □

Thus the second item in Example 2.3 occurs in a semi-direct product of groups, when $\theta = 0$ and hence $\kappa = 0$. Note also that the second case of Proposition 3.1 agrees with the quandle action considered by Ohtsuki [36].

EXAMPLE 3.2. The wreath product of groups gives specific examples as follows. Let $N = (\mathbb{Z}_q)^n$ for some $q \in \{0, 1, \dots\}$. (In case $q = 0$, then $N$ is the direct product of the integers, and when $q = 1$, then $N$ is trivial.) The symmetric group $H = \Sigma_n$ acts on $N$ by permutation of the factors $\sigma(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \sigma(\vec{x}) = (x_{\sigma^{-1}(1)}, \dots, x_{\sigma^{-1}(n)})$, for $\sigma \in \Sigma_n$ and $\vec{x} = (x_j)_{j=1}^n \in N$. In this situation, $E$ is called a wreath product and denoted by $E = (\mathbb{Z}_q) \wr \Sigma_n$. In this case, $\kappa = 0$, and the quandle module structure can be computed explicitly by matrices over $\mathbb{Z}_q$. In [8], such computations were used to obtain non-trivial colorings of some twist-spun knots by dynamical extensions of $R_n$.

Next we consider the 2-cocycle $\kappa$ in terms of sections. In the group case, recall that the equality $s(x)s(y) = i(\theta(x, y))s(xy)$ expresses the group 2-cocycle $\theta$ as an obstruction to the section being a homomorphism. There is a similar interpretation for quandle 2-cocycles.

**Lemma 3.3.** *The* 2*-cocycle* $\kappa$ *in* Proposition 3.1 *satisfies* $s(x)*s(y) = i(\kappa_{x,y})s(x*y)$.

Proof. One computes

$$s(x) * s(y) = (0, x) * (0, y) = \big(\alpha_{x,y}(0, 0), x * y\big) = (\kappa_{x,y}, x * y) = i(\kappa_{x,y})s(x * y)$$

as desired. □

**Lemma 3.4.** *Let* $\kappa$ *be as above. Then we have* $\kappa_{x,y} = \theta(y, x) - \theta(yxy^{-1}, y)$.

Proof. From Lemma 3.3 we have

$$\begin{aligned} s(y)s(x)s(y)^{-1} &= i(\kappa_{x,y})s(yxy^{-1}), \\ i(\theta(y, x))s(yx) &= i(\kappa_{x,y})s(yxy^{-1})s(y) \\ &= i(\kappa_{x,y})i\big(\theta(yxy^{-1}, y)\big)s(yxy^{-1}y), \end{aligned}$$

and we obtain the formula, which is simpler than that of Proposition 3.1. □

**Lemma 3.5.** *Let* $\kappa$ *and* $\theta$ *be as above. If* $\theta$ *is a coboundary, then so is* $\kappa$.

Proof. For a certain group 1-cochain $\gamma$,

$$\theta(x, y) = \delta_G\gamma(x, y) = \gamma(xy) - \gamma(x) - x\gamma(y),$$

where $\delta_G$ (resp. $\delta_Q$) denotes the group (resp. quandle) coboundary homomorphism. By Lemma 3.4,

$$\kappa_{x,y} = \gamma(yxy^{-1}) - y\gamma(x) - (1 - yxy^{-1})\gamma(y) = \delta_Q\gamma(x, y)$$

as desired. □

Thus functors from group homology theories to quandle homology theories are expected.

Let $E = N \rtimes_\theta H$ be as above, a twisted semi-direct product. Let $X$ be a subquandle of $\mathrm{Conj}(H)$, and $\tilde{X} = \pi^{-1}(X)$, where $\pi\colon E \to H$ is the projection. Then $\tilde{X}$ is a subquandle of $\mathrm{Conj}(E)$, and $\pi$ induces the quandle homomorphism $\pi\colon \tilde{X} \to X$, which is a dynamical extension.

EXAMPLE 3.6. Let $X = R_n$ be the dihedral quandle of order $n$ (a positive integer), which is a subquandle of $\mathrm{Conj}(\Sigma_n)$. Let $E = (\mathbb{Z}_q) \wr \Sigma_n$ be the wreath product as in Example 3.2,

$$0 \to N = (Z_q)^n \to E = (\mathbb{Z}_q) \wr \Sigma_n \xrightarrow{\pi} \Sigma_n \to 1.$$

Then $\tilde{X} = \pi^{-1}(X)$ is a subquandle of $\mathrm{Conj}(E)$, and $\tilde{X} = (\mathbb{Z}_q)^n \times_\alpha X$ is a dynamical extension of $X$.

As for the first cocycle groups, we have the following interpretation. Let $X$ be a quandle, $A$ a $\mathbb{Z}(X)$-module. Consider the dynamical extension $A \times_\alpha X$ of $X$ by $A$ with the dynamical cocycle $\alpha_{x,y} = \eta_{x,y} + \tau_{x,y}$ as before. For a given 1-cochain $f \in C^1(X; A) = \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}(X)}(\mathbb{Z}(X)X, A)$, define a section $\hat{f}\colon X \to A \times_\alpha X$ by $\hat{f}(x) = (f(x), x)$, which is indeed a section: $\pi \circ \hat{f} = \mathrm{id}_X$ for the projection $\pi\colon A \times_\alpha X \to X$.

**Lemma 3.7.** *The section $\hat{f}$ is a quandle homomorphism if and only if $f \in Z^1(X; A)$.*

Proof. The 1-cocycle condition is written as $f(x * y) = \eta_{x,y} f(x) + \tau_{x,y} f(y)$ for any $x, y \in X$. Thus we compute

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{f}(x * y) &= \big(f(x * y), x * y\big) \\ \hat{f}(x) * \hat{f}(y) &= \big(\alpha_{x,y}(f(x), f(y)), x * y\big) = \big(\eta_{x,y} f(x) + \tau_{x,y} f(y), x * y\big). \end{aligned}$$ □

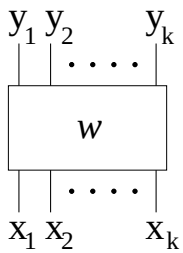


Fig. 4. A quandle coloring of a braid word $w$

Alternatively, it can be stated that there is a one-to-one correspondence between $Z^1(X; A)$ and the set of sections that are quandle homomorphisms.

## 4. Knot invariants from quandle modules

**Quandle modules and braids.** A braid word $w$ (of $k$-strings), or a $k$-braid word, is a product of standard generators $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_{k-1}$ of the braid group $\mathcal{B}_k$ of $k$-strings and their inverses. A braid word $w$ represents an element $[w]$ of the braid group $\mathcal{B}_k$. Geometrically, $w$ is represented by a diagram in a rectangular box with $k$ end points at the top, and $k$ end points at the bottom, where the strings go down monotonically. Each generator or its inverse is represented by a crossing in a diagram. We use the same letter $w$ for a choice of such a diagram. Let $\hat{w}$ denote the closure of the diagram $w$. Quandle colorings of $w$ are defined in exactly the same manner as in the case of knots. However, the quandle elements at the top and the bottom of a diagram of $w$ do not necessarily coincide. For the closure $\hat{w}$, the quandle elements at the top and the bottom of a diagram of $w$ coincide, when we consider a coloring of a link $\hat{w}$.

Let $X$ be a quandle. Let $\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k$ be the bottom arcs of $w$. For a given vector $\vec{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_k) \in X^k$, assign these elements $x_1, \dots, x_k$ on $\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k$ as their colors, respectively. Then from the definition, a coloring $\mathcal{C}$ of $w$ by $X$ is uniquely determined such that $\mathcal{C}(\gamma_i) = x_i$, $i = 1, \dots, k$. We call such a coloring $\mathcal{C}$ the *coloring induced from* $\vec{x}$. Let $\delta_1, \dots, \delta_k$ be the arcs at the top. Let $\vec{y} = (y_1, \dots, y_k) = (\mathcal{C}(\delta_1), \dots, \mathcal{C}(\delta_k)) \in X^k$ be the colors assigned to the top arcs, that are uniquely determined from $\vec{x}$. Denote this situation by a left action, $\vec{y} = w \cdot \vec{x}$. The colors $\vec{x}$ and $\vec{y}$ are called *bottom* and *top colors* or *color vectors*, respectively. See Fig. 4.

Let $X$ be a quandle and $G$ be a quandle module. For a dynamical cocycle $\alpha = \eta + \tau + \kappa$—which acts on $(a, b) \in G^2$ by $\alpha_{x,y}(a, b) = \eta_{x,y}(a) + \tau_{x,y}(b) + \kappa_{x,y}$ for any $(x, y) \in X^2$—let $\tilde{X} = G \times_\alpha X$ be the dynamical extension. If $\vec{r} = ((a_1, x_1), \dots, (a_k, x_k))$ and $\vec{s} = ((b_1, y_1), \dots, (b_k, y_k)) \in \tilde{X}^k$ are bottom and top colors of $w \in \mathcal{B}_k$ by $\tilde{X}$, respectively, then we write this situation by $\vec{b} = M(w, \vec{x}) \cdot \vec{a}$, where $\vec{a} = (a_1, \dots, a_k)$, $\vec{b} = (b_1, \dots, b_k) \in G^k$. Thus $M(w, \vec{x})$ represents a map $M(w, \vec{x})\colon G^k \to G^k$.

**Lemma 4.1.** *If* $[w] = [w'] \in \mathcal{B}_k$, *then* $M(w, \vec{x}) = M(w', \vec{x})\colon G^k \to G^k$.

Proof. The invariance under the braid relations are checked from the definitions. In particular,

$$\begin{aligned}
&M\big(\sigma_1\sigma_2\sigma_1, (x, y, z)\big) \cdot (a, b, c) \\
&= \big(c, \eta_{y,z}(b) + \tau_{y,z}(c) + \kappa_{y,z}, \eta_{x*y,z}\eta_{x,y}(a) + \eta_{x*y,z}\tau_{x,y}(b) + \tau_{x*y,z}(c) + \eta_{x*y,z}(\kappa_{x,y}) + \kappa_{x*y,z}\big), \\
&M\big(\sigma_2\sigma_1\sigma_2, (x, y, z)\big) \cdot (a, b, c) \\
&= \big(c, \eta_{y,z}(b) + \tau_{y,z}(c) + \kappa_{y,z}, \\
&\quad \eta_{x*z,y*z}\eta_{x,z}(a) + \tau_{x*z,y*z}\eta_{y,z}(b) + (\eta_{x*z,y*z}\tau_{x,z} + \tau_{x*z,y*z}\tau_{y,z})(c) \\
&\quad + \eta_{x*z,y*z}(\kappa_{x,z}) + \tau_{x*z,y*z}(\kappa_{y,z}) + \kappa_{x*z,y*z}\big)
\end{aligned}$$

and the equality follows from the quandle module conditions and the generalized 2-cocycle condition. □

This is not a braid group representation on $G^k$, as it depends on the color of $w$ by $X$. However, in the case in which the coloring by $X$ is trivial so $x_1 = x_2 = \cdots = x_k$, and $\kappa = 0$, then it is a braid group representation. We call the map $M(-, \vec{x})\colon \mathcal{B}_k \to \mathrm{Map}(G^k, G^k)$ a *colored representation*.

For a standard braid generator, this situation is diagrammatically represented as depicted in Fig. 2, the left figure for a negative crossing, and the right one for positive. In the calculations given in this section, the left figure represents the braid generator $\sigma_j$, and the right represents the inverse. In the figure, the colors by $X$ are assigned to arcs. Elements of $G$ are put in small circles on arcs. We imagine these circles sliding up through a crossing, at which the dynamical cocycle $\alpha$ acts and changes the elements when a circled elements goes under a crossing. Going over a crossing does not change the element in a circle. From type II Reidemeister moves, the definition of $\overline{\eta}$ and $\overline{\tau}$ is recovered. Fig. 3 shows that the quandle module conditions correspond to the type III move with this diagrammatic convention.

**Module invariants.** Let $w$ be a $k$-braid word, and denote by $\hat{w}$ the closure of $w$. Let $X$ be a quandle and $G$ be a quandle module. Let $\alpha = \eta + \tau$ be a dynamical cocycle, which acts on $(a, b) \in G^2$ by $\alpha_{x,y}(a, b) = \eta_{x,y}(a) + \tau_{x,y}(b)$ for any $(x, y) \in X^2$.

**Theorem 4.2.** *Let $L$ be a link represented as a closed braid $\hat{w}$, where $w$ is a $k$-braid word, and $\mathrm{Col}_X(L)$ be the set of colorings of $L$ by a quandle $X$. For $\mathcal{C} \in \mathrm{Col}_X(L)$, let $\vec{x}$ be the color vector of bottom strings of $w$ that is the restriction of $\mathcal{C}$. Then the family*

$$\tilde{\Phi}(X, \alpha\ ; L) = \big\{G^k / \mathrm{Im}(M(w, \vec{x}) - I)\big\}_{\mathcal{C} \in \mathrm{Col}_X(L)}$$

*of isomorphism classes of modules presented by the maps $(M(w, \vec{x}) - I)$, where $I$ denotes the identity, is independent of choice of $w$ that represents $L$ as its closed braid, and thus defines a link invariant.*

Proof. By the Lemma 4.1, $M(w) = M(w, \vec{x})$ does not depend on the choice of a braid word. We use Markov's theorem to prove the statement. First note that the set of colorings remains unchanged by a stabilization, in the sense that there is a natural bijection (the colorings on bottom strings $(x_1, \dots, x_k)$ of a braid word $w$ extend uniquely to the coloring $(x_1, \dots, x_k, x_k)$ of $w\sigma_k^{\pm 1}$, a stabilization of $w$). There is a bijection of colorings between conjugates, as well. Hence it is sufficient to prove that, for a given coloring, the isomorphism class of the module defined in the statement remains unchanged by conjugation and stabilization for a natural induced coloring. The invariance under conjugation is seen from the fact that conjugation by a braid word induces a conjugation by a matrix, and the module is isomorphic under conjugate presentation matrices. So we investigate the stabilization.

We represent maps of $G^k$ by $k$ by $k$ matrices whose entries represent maps of $G$. The braid generator $\sigma_k$ in the stabilization $w\sigma_k^{\pm 1}$ is represented by the matrix $M(\sigma_k) = I_{k-1} \oplus \left[\begin{smallmatrix} O & I \\ W & I-W \end{smallmatrix}\right]$, where $I$ denotes the identity map of $G$, and $I_k$ denotes the identity map on $G^k$. This is because the $k$th and $(k+1)$st strings receive the same color. The block matrix $\left[\begin{smallmatrix} O & I \\ W & I-W \end{smallmatrix}\right]$, in particular, represents the map

$$(a, b) \mapsto \big(b, \alpha_{x,x}(a, b)\big) = \big(b, \eta_{x,x}(a) + \tau_{x,x}(b)\big)$$

where $x = x_k$, so that $W$ corresponds to the action by $\eta$, and hence $W$ is an isomorphism of $G$. The fact that $\tau_{x,x}$ corresponds to the matrix $I - W$ follows from the condition $\eta_{x,x} + \tau_{x,x} = 1$ in a quandle algebra.

Express the matrix $M(w)$, where $w$ is regarded as a $(k+1)$-braid word after stabilization, though originally a $k$-braid word, by a matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} M_{11} & \cdots & M_{1k} & O \\ \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots \\ M_{k1} & \cdots & M_{kk} & O \\ O & \cdots & O & I \end{bmatrix}$$

where $M_{ij}$, $1 \le i,\ j \le k$, are maps of $G$, and $M(w)$ was written as a $(k+1) \times (k+1)$ matrix of these maps, $I$ denotes the identity map on $G$. Then $M(w\sigma_k)$ is represented by the matrix

$$M(w)M(\sigma_k) = \begin{bmatrix} M_{11} & \cdots & M_{1\,(k-1)} & O & M_{1k} \\ \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ M_{k1} & \cdots & M_{k\,(k-1)} & O & M_{kk} \\ O & \cdots & O & W & I-W \end{bmatrix}.$$

Hence

$$M(w)M(\sigma_k) - I_{k+1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_{11} - I & \cdots & M_{1\ (k-1)} & O & M_{1k} \\ \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ M_{(k-1)\ 1} & \cdots & M_{(k-1)\ (k-1)} - I & O & M_{(k-1)\ k} \\ M_{k1} & \cdots & M_{k\ (k-1)} & -I & M_{kk} \\ O & \cdots & O & W & -W \end{bmatrix},$$

which is column reduced to

$$\begin{bmatrix} M_{11} - I & \cdots & M_{1\ (k-1)} & O & M_{1k} \\ \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ M_{(k-1)\ 1} & \cdots & M_{(k-1)\ (k-1)} - I & O & M_{(k-1)\ k} \\ M_{k1} & \cdots & M_{k\ (k-1)} & -I & M_{kk} - I \\ O & \cdots & O & W & O \end{bmatrix}$$

and is further row reduced to

$$\begin{bmatrix} M_{11} - I & \cdots & M_{1\ (k-1)} & O & M_{1k} \\ \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ M_{(k-1)\ 1} & \cdots & M_{(k-1)\ (k-1)} - I & O & M_{(k-1)\ k} \\ M_{k1} & \cdots & M_{k\ (k-1)} & O & M_{kk} - I \\ O & \cdots & O & W & O \end{bmatrix}$$

that represents a module that is isomorphic to that presented by $M(w) - I_k$ since $W$ is an isomorphism. The invariance under stabilization by $\sigma_k^{-1}$ follows similarly. □

This theorem implies that the following is well-defined.

DEFINITION 4.3. The family of modules $\tilde{\Phi}(X, \alpha; L) = \{G^k/\mathrm{Im}(M(w, \vec{x}) - I)\}_{\mathcal{C} \in \mathrm{Col}_X(L)}$ is called the *quandle module invariant*.

Specific examples can be constructed from wreath products. Let $X$ be a subquandle of $\mathrm{Conj}(\Sigma_n)$, and $E$ be a wreath product extension by $N = (\mathbb{Z}_q)^n$ where $q, n$ are positive integers, so that

$$0 \to N = (\mathbb{Z}_q)^n \xrightarrow{i} E \xrightarrow{\pi} \Sigma_n \to 1,$$

and $E = (\mathbb{Z}_q)^n \rtimes \Sigma_n$. Let $\tilde{X} = \pi^{-1}(X)$, as before, and let $\alpha$ be the corresponding dynamical cocycle, so that $\tilde{X} = (\mathbb{Z}_q)^n \times_\alpha X$.

EXAMPLE 4.4. Let $X = R_n$ denote the $n$-element dihedral quandle, regarded as a subset of $\Sigma_n$. The action on $G = \mathbb{Z}^n$ is by permutations. Then the quandle module

invariant is defined as above, with $q = 0$. We ran programs in *Maple*, *Mathematica*, and/or *C*, independently, to compute the quandle module invariants, for $n = 3$, 5, 7, 11, and 13, through the nine-crossing knots. There are 84 such prime knots in the table. We used Jones's [24] table in which knots are given in braid form. For $n = 3$, 5, 7, 11, and 13, there are 33, 17, 10, 7, and 7 knots that are non-trivially colored by $R_n$, respectively. We summarize our data in Table 1 and 2 for $R_3$ and $R_5$, respectively, below. For each knot we list the torsion subgroups, the rank of the free part, and whether the coloring is trivial or not. Thus the entry in Table 1 for knot $8_{15}$ indicates that there are three trivial colorings of $8_{15}$ which give the invariant $\mathbb{Z}_{33} \oplus \mathbb{Z}^3$, and six colorings give the invariant $\mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}^4$. For colorings by $R_7$, $R_{11}$ and $R_{13}$, the results are summarized as follows, where $D$ denotes the determinant of a given knot.

- All 7-colorable knots up to 9-crossings, except $9_{41}$, have the module invariant $(\mathbb{Z}_D)^3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}^7$, for 7 trivial colorings, and $\mathbb{Z}^{10}$ for 42 non-trivial colorings. For $9_{41}$, it is $(\mathbb{Z}_D)^6 \oplus \mathbb{Z}^7$ for 7 trivial colorings, and $\mathbb{Z}^{10}$ for 336 non-trivial colorings.
- All 11-colorable knots up to 9-crossings have the module invariant $(\mathbb{Z}_D)^5 \oplus \mathbb{Z}^{11}$, for 11 trivial colorings, and $\mathbb{Z}^{16}$ for 110 non-trivial colorings.
- All 13-colorable knots up to 9-crossings have the module invariant $(\mathbb{Z}_D)^6 \oplus \mathbb{Z}^{13}$, for 13 trivial colorings, and $\mathbb{Z}^{19}$ for 156 non-trivial colorings.

We expect that the monotony of values for 7, 11, and 13 is due to the fact that the knots considered are all of relatively small crossing numbers and/or bridge numbers.

REMARK 4.5. The construction of the quandle module invariant is similar to the construction of Alexander modules from Burau representation. Also, the cokernel appears in the definition of the Bowen-Franks [3] groups for symbolic dynamical systems. Thus relations to covering spaces, as well as dynamical systems related to braid groups, are expected.

In [31, 41] group representations of knot groups are used to define twisted Alexander polynomials. In that situation, the representation can be viewed as a matrix (which depends on the image of the meridian) assigned to a crossing. The quandle module invariant is related when the quandle colorings are given by knot group representations. The general relation can be understood via Fox calculus.

## 5. Knot invariants from non-abelian 2-cocycles

**Non-abelian 2-cocycles.** Let $X$ be a quandle and $H$ a (not necessarily abelian) group. A function $\beta\colon X \times X \to H$ is a *rack* 2-*cocycle* [1] if

$$\beta(x_1, x_2)\beta(x_1 * x_2, x_3) = \beta(x_1, x_3)\beta(x_1 * x_3, x_2 * x_3)$$

is satisfied for any $x_1$, $x_2$, $x_3 \in X$. If a rack 2-cocycle further satisfies $\beta(x, x) = 1$ for any $x \in X$, then it is called a *quandle* 2-*cocycle* [1]. The set of quandle 2-cocycles is denoted by $Z^2_{\mathrm{CQ}}(X; H)$. Two cocycles $\beta$, $\beta'$ are *cohomologous* if there is a function

Table 1. A table of module invariants for 3-colorable knots

| Knot | Tor | Rank | Col type | Knot | Tor | Rank | Col type |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| $3_1$ | 3 | 3 | 3 Trivial | $9_{11}$ | 33 | 3 | 3 Trivial |
| | 0 | 4 | 6 Non-trivial | | 0 | 4 | 6 Non-trivial |
| $6_1$ | 9 | 3 | 3 Trivial | $9_{15}$ | 39 | 3 | 3 Trivial |
| | 0 | 4 | 6 Non-trivial | | 0 | 4 | 6 Non-trivial |
| $7_4$ | 15 | 3 | 3 Trivial | $9_{16}$ | 39 | 3 | 3 Trivial |
| | 0 | 4 | 6 Non-trivial | | 2 | 4 | 6 Non-trivial |
| $7_7$ | 21 | 3 | 3 Trivial | $9_{17}$ | 39 | 3 | 3 Trivial |
| | 0 | 4 | 6 Non-trivial | | 0 | 4 | 6 Non-trivial |
| $8_5$ | 21 | 3 | 3 Trivial | $9_{23}$ | 45 | 3 | 3 Trivial |
| | 2 | 4 | 6 Non-Trivial | | 0 | 4 | 6 Non-trivial |
| $8_{10}$ | 27 | 3 | 3 Trivial | $9_{24}$ | 45 | 3 | 3 Trivial |
| | 2 | 4 | 6 Non-trivial | | 2 | 4 | 6 Non-trivial |
| $8_{11}$ | 27 | 3 | 3 Trivial | $9_{28}$ | 51 | 3 | 3 Trivial |
| | 0 | 4 | 6 Non-trivial | | 2 | 4 | 6 Non-trivial |
| $8_{15}$ | 33 | 3 | 3 Trivial | $9_{29}$ | 51 | 3 | 3 Trivial |
| | 2 | 4 | 6 Non-trivial | | 0 | 4 | 6 Non-trivial |
| $8_{18}$ | 3, 15 | 3 | 3 Trivial | $9_{34}$ | 69 | 3 | 3 Trivial |
| | 3 | 4 | 24 Non-trivial | | 0 | 4 | 6 Non-trivial |
| $8_{19}$ | 3 | 3 | 3 Trivial | $9_{35}$ | 3, 9 | 3 | 3 Trivial |
| | 2 | 4 | 6 Non-Trivial | | 0 | 4 | 18 Non-trivial |
| $8_{20}$ | 9 | 3 | 3 Trivial | | 2 | 4 | 6 Non-trivial |
| | 2 | 4 | 6 Non-trivial | $9_{37}$ | 3, 15 | 3 | 3 Trivial |
| $8_{21}$ | 15 | 3 | 3 Trivial | | 2 | 4 | 6 Non-trivial |
| | 2 | 4 | 6 Non-trivial | | 0 | 4 | 18 Non-trivial |
| $9_1$ | 9 | 3 | 3 Trivial | $9_{38}$ | 57 | 3 | 3 Trivial |
| | 0 | 4 | 6 Non-trivial | | 0 | 4 | 6 Non-trivial |
| $9_2$ | 15 | 3 | 3 Trivial | $9_{40}$ | 5, 15 | 3 | 3 Trivial |
| | 0 | 4 | 6 Non-trivial | | 4 | 4 | 6 Non-trivial |
| $9_4$ | 21 | 3 | 3 Trivial | $9_{46}$ | 3, 3 | 3 | 3 Trivial |
| | 0 | 4 | 6 Non-trivial | | 0 | 4 | 18 Non-trivial |
| $9_6$ | 27 | 3 | 3 Trivial | | 2 | 4 | 6 Non-trivial |
| | 0 | 4 | 6 Non-trivial | $9_{47}$ | 3, 9 | 3 | 3 Trivial |
| $9_{10}$ | 33 | 3 | 3 Trivial | | 0 | 4 | 24 Non-trivial |
| | 0 | 4 | 6 Non-trivial | $9_{48}$ | 3, 9 | 3 | 3 Trivial |
| | | | | | 0 | 4 | 18 Non-trivial |
| | | | | | 2 | 4 | 6 Non-trivial |

Table 2. A table of module invariants for 5-colorable knots

| Knot | Tor | Rank | Col type | Knot | Tor | Rank | Col type |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| $4_1$ | 5, 5 | 5 | 5 Trivial | $9_2$ | 15, 15 | 5 | 5 Trivial |
| | 0 | 7 | 20 Non-trivial | | 0 | 7 | 20 Non-trivial |
| $5_1$ | 5, 5 | 5 | 5 Trivial | $9_{12}$ | 35, 35 | 5 | 5 Trivial |
| | 0 | 7 | 20 Non-trivial | | 0 | 7 | 20 Non-trivial |
| $7_4$ | 15, 15 | 5 | 5 Trivial | $9_{23}$ | 45, 45 | 5 | 5 Trivial |
| | 0 | 7 | 20 Non-trivial | | 0 | 7 | 20 Non-trivial |
| $8_7$ | 25, 25 | 5 | 5 Non-trivial | $9_{24}$ | 45, 45 | 5 | 5 Trivial |
| | 0 | 7 | 20 Trivial | | 0 | 7 | 20 Non-trivial |
| $8_8$ | 25, 25 | 5 | 5 Trivial | $9_{31}$ | 55, 55 | 5 | 5 Trivial |
| | 0 | 7 | 20 Non-trivial | | 0 | 7 | 20 Non-trivial |
| $8_{16}$ | 35, 35 | 5 | 5 Trivial | $9_{37}$ | 3, 3, 15, 15 | 5 | 5 Trivial |
| | 0 | 7 | 20 Non-trivial | | 0 | 7 | 20 Non-Trivial |
| $8_{18}$ | 3, 3, 15, 15 | 5 | 5 Trivial | $9_{39}$ | 55, 55 | 5 | 5 Trivial |
| | 2, 2 | 7 | 20 Non-trivial | | 0 | 7 | 20 Non-trivial |
| $8_{21}$ | 15, 15 | 5 | 5 Trivial | $9_{40}$ | 5, 5, 15, 15 | 5 | 5 Trivial |
| | 0 | 7 | 20 Non-trivial | | 5 | 7 | 120 Non-Trivial |
| | | | | $9_{48}$ | 5, 5, 5, 5 | 5 | 5 Trivial |
| | | | | | 0 | 7 | 120 Non-trivial |

$\gamma : X \to H$ such that

$$\beta'(x_1, x_2) = \gamma(x_1)^{-1}\beta(x_1, x_2)\gamma(x_1 * x_2)$$

for any $x_1$, $x_2 \in X$. An equivalence class is called a *cohomology class*. The set of cohomology classes is denoted by $H^2_{\mathrm{CQ}}(X; H)$. These definitions agree with those in [10] if $H$ is an abelian group. When $H$ is not necessarily abelian, the 2-cocycles $\beta$ are called (constant) 2-*cocycles* in [1]. We call such a 2-cocycle *non-abelian* when $H$ is not an abelian group.

Let $S$ be a set and $\mathbb{S}_S$ denotes the permutation group on $S$. Let $E = S \times X$ and $\beta \in Z^2_{\mathrm{CQ}}(X; \mathbb{S}_S)$. Then the binary operation on $E$

$$(a_1, x_1) * (a_2, x_2) = \big(a_1 \cdot \beta(x_1, x_2), x_1 * x_2\big)$$

defines a quandle structure on $E$. We call this $E$ the non-abelian extension of $X$ by $\beta$, and denote it by $E = E(X, S, \beta)$.

A quandle $X$ is *decomposable* [1] if it is a disjoint union $X = Y \sqcup Z$ such that $Y * X = Y$ and $Z * X = Z$, where $Y * X = \{y * x \mid y \in Y,\ x \in X\}$. A quandle is *indecomposable* if it is not decomposable. For a rack $X$, let $\phi_y : X \to X$ be the quandle isomorphism defined by $\phi_y(x) = x * y$, $x \in X$. The subgroup $\mathrm{Inn}(X)$ of the group $\mathrm{Aut}(X)$ of automorphisms of $X$ generated by $\phi_y$, $y \in X$, is called the inner automorphism group. The same groups are defined for quandle automorphisms for a quandle $X$.

**Lemma 5.1** ([1]). *Suppose $Y$ is indecomposable and $f\colon Y \to X$ is a quandle surjective homomorphism such that $\phi_x = \phi_y$ if $f(x) = f(y)$ for $x, y \in Y$. Then $Y$ is a non-abelian extension $S \times_\beta X$ for some $\beta \in Z^2_{\mathrm{CQ}}(X; \mathbb{S}_S)$.*

The following construction was given in [1] (Example 2.13). Let $X$ be an indecomposable finite rack, $x_0 \in X$ a fixed element, $G = \mathrm{Inn}(X)$, and $H = G_{x_0}$ be the subgroup of $G$ whose elements fix $x_0$. Let $S$ be a finite set and $\rho\colon H \to \mathbb{S}_S$ be a group homomorphism. There is a bijection $G/H \to X$ given by $g \mapsto g(x_0)$. Fix a set-theoretic section $s\colon X \to G$. Thus $s(x) \cdot x_0 = x$ for all $x \in X$.

**Lemma 5.2** ([1]). *The element $t(x, y) = s(x)\phi_y s(x * y)^{-1}$ is in $H$ for any $x, y \in X$, and $\beta(x, y) = \rho(t(x, y))$ is a rack 2-cocycle.*

*The 2-cocycle $\beta$ is a quandle 2-cocycle if and only if $\rho(\phi_{x_0}) = 1 \in \mathbb{S}_S$.*

**Definitions.** We define a new cocycle invariant using the non-abelian cocycles. Let $L = K_1 \cup \cdots \cup K_r$ be a classical oriented link diagram on the plane, where $K_1, \ldots, K_r$ are connected components, for some positive integer $r$. Let $\mathcal{T}_i$, for, $i = 1, \ldots, r$, be the set of crossings such that the under-arc is from the component $i$.

Let $X$ be a quandle, $H$ a group, $\beta \in Z^2_{\mathrm{CQ}}(X; H)$. Let $\mathcal{C} \in \mathrm{Col}_X(L)$ be a coloring of $L$ by $X$. Let $(b_1, \ldots, b_r)$ be the set of base points on the components $(K_1, \ldots, K_r)$, respectively. Let $(\tau_1^{(j)}, \ldots, \tau_{k(j)}^{(j)})$ be the crossings in $\mathcal{T}_j$, $j = 1, \ldots, r$, that appear in this order when one starts from $b_j$ and travels $K_j$ in the given orientation.

At a crossing $\tau$, let $x_\tau$ be the color on the under-arc from which the normal of the over-arc points; let $y_\tau$ be the color on the over-arc. The *Boltzmann weight* at $\tau$ is $B(\tau, \mathcal{C}) = \beta(x_\tau, y_\tau)^{\epsilon(\tau)}$, where $\epsilon(\tau)$ is $\pm 1$ depending on whether $\tau$ is positive or negative, respectively. For a group element $h \in H$, denote by $[h]$ the conjugacy class to which $h$ belongs.

DEFINITION 5.3. The family of vectors of conjugacy classes

$$\vec{\Psi}(L) = \vec{\Psi}_{(X,H,\beta)}(L) = ([\Psi_1(L, \mathcal{C})], \ldots, [\Psi_r(L, \mathcal{C})])_{\mathcal{C} \in \mathrm{Col}_X(L)}$$

where

$$\Psi_i(L, \mathcal{C}) = \prod_{j=1}^{k(i)} \beta(x_{\tau_j^{(i)}}, y_{\tau_j^{(i)}})^{\epsilon(\tau_j^{(i)})},$$

is called the *conjugacy quandle cocycle invariant* of a link.

These cocycle invariants include abelian cocycle invariants defined in [10] as a special case (when $H$ is abelian).

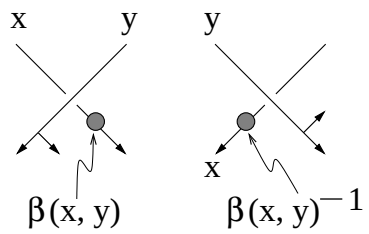


Fig. 5. The beads interpretation of the invariant

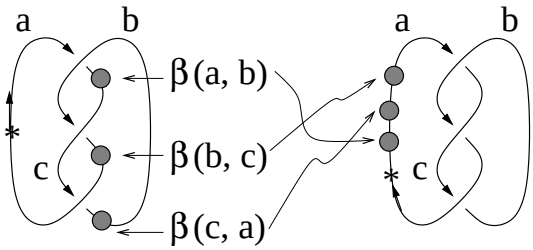


Fig. 6. Making a beads necklace with trefoil

REMARK 5.4. The invariant has the following interpretation of sliding beads along knots, similar to Hopf algebra invariants defined in [27]. Let a knot diagram $K$ and its coloring $\mathcal{C}$ by a finite quandle $X$ be given, and let $\vec{\Psi}(K)$ be the conjugacy quandle cocycle invariant with a 2-cocycle $\beta \in Z^2_{\mathrm{CQ}}(X; H)$ for a (non-abelian) coefficient group $H$.

Put a bead on the underarc just below each crossing as shown in Fig. 5. Each bead is assigned the weight at the crossing, as in the left of the figure for a positive crossing and as in the right for a negative crossing, respectively. This process is depicted in Fig. 6 in the left for the trefoil.

Pick a base point (which is depicted by $*$ in the figure) on the diagram, and push it in the given orientation of the knot. With it the beads are pushed along in the order the base point encounters them. When the base point comes back to near the original position, it has collected all the beads. This situation is depicted in Fig. 6 in the right. The beads, read from the base point, are aligned in the order $\beta(a, b)$, $\beta(b, c)$, and $\beta(c, a)$ in this order in the figure, and the conjugacy class $[\beta(a, b)\beta(c, a)\beta(b, c)]$ is the contribution to the invariant for this coloring.

**Theorem 5.5.** *The conjugacy quandle cocycle invariant $\vec{\Psi}$ is well defined. Specifically, let $L_1$, $L_2$ be two link diagrams of ambient isotopic links, and $\vec{\Psi}(L_1)$, $\vec{\Psi}(L_2)$ be their conjugacy quandle cocycle invariants. Then $\vec{\Psi}(L_1)$ and $\vec{\Psi}(L_2)$ are equal as a set of conjugacy classes.*

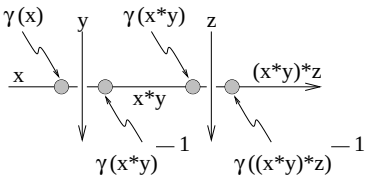


Fig. 7. Canceling beads terms

Proof. The fact that $\vec{\Psi}$ does not change by Reidemeister moves for fixed base points is similar to the proof in [10] for the knot case and that in [6] for the link case, proved for abelian cocycle invariants, except one just observes that the order of group elements is also preserved under Reidemeister moves. □

**Proposition 5.6.** *The cocycle invariant $\vec{\Psi}$ is trivial* (*i.e.*, *$\vec{\Psi}$ consists of vectors whose entries are the conjugacy class of the identity element*) *if the cocycle used is a coboundary.*

Proof. The proof is similar to the proof of an analogous theorem in [10]. If $\beta \in Z^2_{\mathrm{CQ}}(X;H)$ is null-homologous, then $\beta(x,y) = \gamma(x)\gamma(x*y)^{-1}$ for some function $\gamma\colon X \to H$. Let $\beta(x,y)$, $\beta(x*y,z)$ be consecutive Boltzmann weights in $\Psi_i(K,\mathcal{C})$, a contribution to the cocycle invariant for a coloring $\mathcal{C}$ for the $i$th component. Then in $\Psi_i(K,\mathcal{C})$, they form a product $\cdots\beta(x,y)\beta(x*y,z)\cdots$, which is equal to $\cdots(\gamma(x)\gamma(x*y)^{-1})(\gamma(x*y)\gamma((x*y)*z)^{-1})\cdots$, and the middle terms cancel. The left and the right terms cancel with the next adjacent terms, and obtain $\Psi_i(K,\mathcal{C}) = 1$. This proves the proposition. The situation is easier to visualize diagrammatically. The bead representing $\beta(x,y)$ is represented by two separate ordered beads representing $\gamma(x)$ and $\gamma(x*y)^{-1}$ as depicted at the left crossing in Fig. 7. Thus all the beads cancel after going around each component once. □

Recall that an action of a group $H$ on a set $X$ is said *free* if for all $h \in H$, $x \in X$ one has that $h \cdot x = x$ implies $h = 1$.

**Proposition 5.7.** *Let $H \subset \mathbb{S}_S$ and $\beta \in Z^2_{\mathrm{CQ}}(X;H)$. If the invariant $\vec{\Psi}(L)$ is trivial, then any coloring of $L$ by $X$ extends to a coloring by $E(X,S,\beta)$. Conversely, if any coloring of $L$ by $X$ extends to a coloring by $E(X,S,\beta)$, then $\vec{\Psi}(L)$ is trivial, provided that the action on $S$ of the subgroup of $H$ generated by the image of $\beta$ is free.*

Proof. This proof is similar to the proof of the corresponding theorem in [6]. Pick an element $s_0 \in S$ and color the arc with the base point $b_i$ on the $i$th component by $(s_0,x) \in E = E(X,S,\beta)$, where $E$ is identified with $S \times X$. Go along the component, and after passing under the first crossing, the color of the second arc is

required to be $(s_0\beta(x,y), x*y)$, if the over-arc is colored by $y \in X$. Continuing this process, when we come back to the base point, the color is $(s_0\Psi_i(L,\mathcal{C}), x)$, and the proposition follows. □

The freeness requirement is satisfied, for example, if $S = H$ and $H$ is regarded as a subset of $\mathbb{S}_H$ (as permutations of $H$) via multiplication on the right.

When a 2-cocycle constructed by the method of Lemma 5.2 is used to define the invariant, we have the following interpretation that is an analogue of Proposition 5.6. Let $L = K_1 \cup \cdots \cup K_r$ be an oriented link diagram, and $b_1, \ldots, b_r$ arbitrarily chosen and fixed base points on each component. Let $\beta$ be a 2-cocycle constructed in Lemma 5.2, so that $\beta(x,y) = \rho(t(x,y))$ for any $x$, $y$ in a quandle $X$, and $t(x,y) = s(y)\phi_y s(x*y)^{-1}$. From the proof of Proposition 5.6 the contribution to the cocycle invariant is written as

$$\begin{aligned}
\Psi_i(L,\mathcal{C}) &= \beta\left(x_{\tau_1^{(i)}}, y_{\tau_1^{(i)}}\right)^{\epsilon(\tau_1^{(i)})} \cdot \beta\left(x_{\tau_2^{(i)}}, y_{\tau_2^{(i)}}\right)^{\epsilon(\tau_2^{(i)})} \cdots \beta\left(x_{\tau_{k(i)}^{(i)}}, y_{\tau_{k(i)}^{(i)}}\right)^{\epsilon(\tau_{k(i)}^{(i)})} \\
&= \left(\rho\left(s\left(x_{\tau_1^{(i)}}\right)\phi_{y_{\tau_1^{(i)}}} s\left(x_{\tau_2^{(i)}}\right)^{-1}\right)\right) \cdot \left(\rho\left(s\left(x_{\tau_2^{(i)}}\right)\phi_{y_{\tau_2^{(i)}}} s\left(x_{\tau_3^{(i)}}\right)^{-1}\right)\right) \cdots \\
&\quad \cdot \left(\rho\left(s\left(x_{\tau_{k(i)}^{(i)}}\right)\phi_{y_{\tau_{k(i)}^{(i)}}} s\left(x_{\tau_{k(i)}^{(i)}}\right)^{-1}\right)\right) \\
&= \rho\left(s\left(x_{\tau_1^{(i)}}\right) \cdot \left(\phi_{y_{\tau_1^{(i)}}}\phi_{y_{\tau_2^{(i)}}} \cdots \phi_{y_{\tau_{k(i)}^{(i)}}}\right) \cdot s\left(x_{\tau_{k(i)}^{(i)}}\right)^{-1}\right)
\end{aligned}$$

Thus we obtain the following.

**Lemma 5.8.** *If a* 2*-cocycle constructed in* Lemma 5.2 *is used to define the conjugacy cocycle invariant, then the contribution to the* $i$*th component* $\Psi_i(L,\mathcal{C})$ *is computed by*

$$\Psi_i(L,\mathcal{C}) = \rho\left(s\left(x_{\tau_1^{(i)}}\right) \cdot \left(\phi_{y_{\tau_1^{(i)}}}\phi_{y_{\tau_2^{(i)}}} \cdots \phi_{y_{\tau_{k(i)}^{(i)}}}\right) \cdot s\left(x_{\tau_1^{(i)}}\right)^{-1}\right).$$

The expression $y_{\tau_1^{(i)}} \cdots y_{\tau_{k(i)}^{(i)}}$ is the sequence of colors that one encounters traveling along the component, picking up $y_{\tau_j^{(i)}}$ as one goes under the $j$th crossing. Thus this sequence corresponds to the longitudinal element in the fundamental group.

**Constructions.** We follow Lemma 5.2 to construct explicit examples of non-abelian cocycle invariants from conjugacy classes of groups. Let $X$ be a conjugacy class in a finite group and let $G = \langle X \rangle$ be the subgroup generated by $X$. Let $x_0 \in G$ be a fixed element and $H = Z_{x_0} = \{x \in G \mid x_0 x = x x_0\}$. Let $\alpha\colon G \to \mathrm{Inn}(X)$ be the map induced from the conjugation $g \mapsto (x \mapsto gxg^{-1})$. Then the kernel of $\alpha$ is the center $Z(G)$ and $\mathrm{Inn}(X)$ is isomorphic to $G/Z(G)$.

To evaluate cocycle invariants for specific examples, let $X$ be the conjugacy class

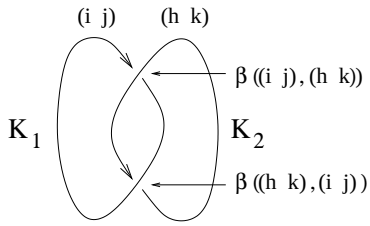


Fig. 8. Hopf link

consisting of transpositions of $\Sigma_n$ for a fixed $n \geq 5$, then $G = \langle X \rangle = \Sigma_n$, and $\mathrm{Inn}(X) = G$. Let $x_0 = (1\ 2)$, then

$$H = \big\langle (1\ 2), (i\ \ j) \mid 2 < i < j \leq n \big\rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \Sigma_{n-2},$$

and $N(x_0)$, the normal closure of $x_0$ in $H$, is equal to $\langle (1\ 2) \rangle = \{1, (1\ 2)\}$, so that $H/N(x_0) \cong \Sigma_{n-2}$, where $\mathbb{S}_{\{3,4,\ldots,n\}}$ is identified with the symmetric group $\Sigma_{n-2}$. Thus take $S = \{3, 4, \ldots, n\}$ and regard $H/N(x_0)$ as $\mathbb{S}_S$. Let the map $\rho\colon H \to H/N(x_0) = \mathbb{S}_S$ be the projection. Then $\rho(x_0) = 1$, so that the condition for a quandle cocycle is satisfied. Let $s\colon X \to G$ be defined by $s(i\ \ j) = (1\ i)(2\ \ j)$, then $s$ defines a section. By Lemma 5.2, this set up defines a 2-cocycle $\beta \in Z^2_{\mathrm{CQ}}(X; \mathbb{S}_S)$.

EXAMPLE 5.9. Let $n = 5$, then, for example, $\beta((1\ 4), (2\ 3))$ can be computed as

$$\begin{aligned}
\beta\big((1\ 4), (2\ 3)\big) &= \rho\big(t((1\ 4), (2\ 3))\big) \\
&= \rho\big(s((1\ 4))\phi_{(2\ 3)}s((1\ 4) * (2\ 3))^{-1}\big) \\
&= \rho\big((2\ 4)(2\ 3)[s((2\ 3)(1\ 4)(2\ 3))]^{-1}\big) \\
&= \rho\big((2\ 4)(2\ 3)(2\ 4)\big) \\
&= \rho\big((3\ 4)\big) \\
&= (3\ 4).
\end{aligned}$$

EXAMPLE 5.10. We evaluate the cocycle invariant using the preceding 2-cocycle for a Hopf link $L = K_1 \cup K_2$ depicted in Fig. 8.

Let $n = 5$ as in Example 5.9. There are two arcs in a Hopf link, also denoted by $K_1$ and $K_2$. In the figure, the colors $(i\ \ j)$ and $(h\ \ k)$ are assigned. Consider the case $(i\ \ j) = (1\ 4)$ and $(h\ \ k) = (2\ 3)$, which certainly defines a coloring $\mathcal{C}$ of $L$. By the computation in Example 5.9, the contribution to the invariant $\vec{\Psi}(L)$ is

$$\Psi_1(L, \mathcal{C}) = \beta\big((1\ 4), (2\ 3)\big) = (3\ 4) = \Psi_2(L, \mathcal{C}),$$

which contributes the pair $([(3\ 4)], [(3\ 4)])$ of conjugacy classes of $\mathbb{S}_{\{3,4,5\}} \cong \Sigma_3$.

**The non-abelian cocycle invariant is a quantum invariant.** Let $X$ be a finite quandle, $G$ a finite group and $\beta\colon X \times X \to G$ a 2-cocycle. Let $\vec{\Psi}(L) = ([\Psi_1(L,\mathcal{C})],\dots,[\Psi_r(L,\mathcal{C})])$ be the invariant given in Definition 5.3.

Let $\rho\colon G \to \mathrm{Aut}(V)$ be a representation of $G$. Let $W = \mathbb{C}X \otimes V$ with the braiding given by $c((x\otimes v)\otimes(y\otimes w)) = (y\otimes w)\otimes(x * y \otimes v\cdot\rho\beta(x,y))$. Since $X$ and $G$ are finite, $W$ is a (right-right) Yetter-Drinfeld module over some finite group, (see [1]) and we can consider the quantum link invariants coloring links by $W$ (the ribbon structure is the identity map, see [20]). Denote this invariant by $\Psi(L,W)$. Then we have the following, an analogue of [20].

**Proposition 5.11.** $\mathrm{tr}(\rho\vec{\Psi}(L)) = \Psi(L,W)$. (*Here* $\mathrm{tr}(\rho\vec{\Psi}(L)) = \prod_{i=1}^{r}\mathrm{tr}([\rho\Psi_i(L,\mathcal{C})])$ *is the trace in the tensor product via the inclusion* $\mathrm{Aut}(V)\times\cdots\times\mathrm{Aut}(V) \hookrightarrow \mathrm{End}(V\otimes\cdots\otimes V)$ ($r$ *components*)).

Proof. Consider $L$ as the closure of a braid $z = \sigma_{i_1}^{e_1}\cdots\sigma_{i_l}^{e_l} \in \mathcal{B}_n$, where $e_i = \pm 1$. Let $\bar{z} \in \Sigma_n$ be the projection of $z$ in the symmetric group. To compute $\Psi(L,W)$ we take the trace of the map defined by

$$z\colon W^{\epsilon_1}\otimes\cdots\otimes W^{\epsilon_n} \to W^{\epsilon_{\bar{z}(1)}}\otimes\cdots\otimes W^{\epsilon_{\bar{z}(n)}},$$

where $\epsilon_i = \pm 1$ and $W^{-1}$ stands for $W^*$. To compute this trace we take the basis $X$ of $\mathbb{C}X$, a basis $\{v_i \mid i \in I\}$ of $V$ and the basis $\{x\otimes v_i \mid x \in X, i \in I\}$ of $W$. Notice that the first components of the braiding in $W$ are given by the quandle $X$. Thus, if we apply the map $z$ to an element of the form $(x_1\otimes v_{i_1})\otimes\cdots\otimes(x_n\otimes v_{i_n})$, this element will not contribute to the invariant unless we receive $x_1,\dots,x_n$ as the first components; i.e. if $(x_1,\dots,x_n)\in X^n$ defines a coloring of $L$. Consider therefore the colorings of $L$. Take a particular coloring given by $x_1,\dots,x_n$ at the top of the braid. For any $n$-tuple of elements $v_{i_1},\dots,v_{i_n}$ in the basis of $V$, we apply successively $\sigma_{i_1}^{e_1},\dots,\sigma_{i_l}^{e_l}$ and notice that the $v_i$'s change by $\beta$ exactly in the same way as defined in the invariant $\vec{\Psi}$. Now, $\mathrm{tr}(\rho\vec{\Psi})$ is the sum over the colorings of traces of products of $\rho(\beta_{x,y}^{\pm 1})$ for several $x$, $y$'s, and $\Psi$ is the sum over colorings of traces of maps made by $\beta_{x,y}^{\pm 1}$ for the same pairs $x$, $y$ as for $\mathrm{tr}(\rho\vec{\Psi})$. The last step is to notice that the order of the $\beta$'s used in the definition of $\vec{\Psi}$ is the same one that one gets by taking traces, thanks to the following remark: Let $f_1,\dots,f_n \in \mathrm{End}(V)$ be linear maps and consider the map $F \in \mathrm{End}(V^{\epsilon_1}\otimes\cdots\otimes V^{\epsilon_n})$ given by

$$F(x_1^{\epsilon_1}\otimes\cdots\otimes x_n^{\epsilon_n}) = \bar{z}\big(f_1^{\epsilon_1}(x_1^{\epsilon_1})\otimes\cdots\otimes f_n^{\epsilon_n}(x_n^{\epsilon_n})\big).$$

Write $\bar{z} = (p_1,\dots,p_{a_1})(p_{a_1+1},\dots,p_{a_1+a_2})\cdots(p_{a_1+\cdots+a_{r-1}+1},\dots,p_{a_1+\cdots+a_r})$ the decomposi-

tion of $\bar{z}$ in disjoint cycles. Then

$$\operatorname{tr} F = \prod_{j=1}^{r} \operatorname{tr}\left( f_{p(a_1+\cdots+a_{j-1}+1)}^{\epsilon_{p(a_1+\cdots+a_{j-1}+1)}} f_{p(a_1+\cdots+a_{j-1}+2)}^{\epsilon_{p(a_1+\cdots+a_{j-1}+2)}} \cdots f_{p(a_1+\cdots+a_j)}^{\epsilon_{p(a_1+\cdots+a_j)}} \right).$$

This is easy to see. Let us illustrate it with the easy example $z = \sigma_1 \in \mathcal{B}_2$; we must prove then that

$$\operatorname{tr}\big((v \otimes w) \mapsto (g(w) \otimes f(v))\big) = \operatorname{tr}(fg),$$

but the left hand side of the equation is $\sum_{i,j} g_{j,i} f_{i,j}$ (here $f_{i,j}$ and $g_{i,j}$ are the matrix coefficients of $f$ and $g$ in the basis $\{v_i\}$ of $V$) and this coincides with the right hand side. □

## 6. Knot invariants from generalized 2-cocycles

**Definitions.** Let $X$ be a finite quandle and $\mathbb{Z}(X)$ be its quandle algebra with generators $\{\eta_{x,y}^{\pm 1}\}_{x,y\in X}$ and $\{\tau_{x,y}\}_{x,y\in X}$. Recall (Example 2.1) that the enveloping group $G_X$ of a quandle $X$ is a quotient of the free group $F(X)$ on $X$ defined by $G_X = \langle x \in X \mid x * y = yxy^{-1}\rangle$. Then $\mathbb{Z}(X)$ maps onto the group algebra $\mathbb{Z}G_X$ by $\eta_{x,y} \mapsto y$, $\tau_{x,y} \mapsto 1 - x * y$ so that any left $\mathbb{Z}G_X$-module has a structure of a $\mathbb{Z}(X)$-module [1]. Let $G$ be an abelian group with this $\mathbb{Z}(X)$-module structure. In fact, a homology theory in this case when $G_X$ acts on coefficients, as well as knot invariants when regions are colored, was defined and studied earlier in [37]. In this and the next sections, we investigate such invariants when the action is given by the wreath product of groups. Let $\kappa$ be a generalized quandle 2-cocycle of $X$ with the coefficient group $G$. Thus the generalized 2-cocycle condition, in this setting, is written as

$$z\kappa_{x,y} + \kappa_{x*y,z} + \big((x * y) * z\big)\kappa_{y,z} = \kappa_{y,z} + (y * z)\kappa_{x,z} + \kappa_{x*z,y*z}.$$

We define a cocycle invariant using this 2-cocycle.

A knot diagram $K$ is given on the plane. Recall that it is oriented, and has orientation normals. There are four regions near each crossing, divided by the arcs of the diagram. The unique region into which both normals (to over- and under-arcs) point is called the *target* region. Let $\gamma$ be an arc from the region at infinity of the plane to the target region of a given crossing $r$, that intersect $K$ in finitely many points transversely, missing crossing points. Let $a_i$, $i = 1, \ldots, k$, in this order, be the arcs of $K$ that intersect $\gamma$ from the region at infinity to the crossing. Let $\mathcal{C}$ be a coloring of $K$ by a fixed finite quandle $X$.

DEFINITION 6.1. The *Boltzmann weight* $B(\mathcal{C}, r, \gamma)$ for the crossing $r$, for a coloring $\mathcal{C}$, with respect to $\gamma$, is defined by

$$B(\mathcal{C}, r, \gamma) = \pm\big(\mathcal{C}(a_1)^{\epsilon(a_1)}\mathcal{C}(a_2)^{\epsilon(a_2)} \cdots \mathcal{C}(a_k)^{\epsilon(a_k)}\big)\kappa_{x,y} \in \mathbb{Z}G,$$

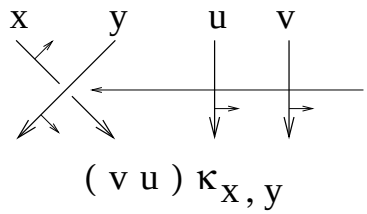


Fig. 9. Weights on arcs

where $x$, $y$ are the colors at the given crossing ($x$ is assigned on the under-arc from which the normal of the over-arc points, and $y$ is assigned to the over-arc), and the product

$$\left(\mathcal{C}(a_1)^{\epsilon(a_1)}\mathcal{C}(a_2)^{\epsilon(a_2)}\cdots\mathcal{C}(a_k)^{\epsilon(a_k)}\right) \in G_X$$

acts on $G$ via the quandle module structure. The sign $\pm$ in front is determined by whether $r$ is positive (+) or negative ($-$). The exponent $\epsilon(a_j)$ is 1 if the arc $\gamma$ crosses the arc $a_j$ against its normal, and is $-1$ otherwise, for $j = 1, \ldots, k$.

The situation is depicted in Fig. 9, when the arc intersects two arcs with colors $u$ and $v$ in this order.

**Lemma 6.2.** *The Boltzmann weight, does not depend on the choice of the arc $\gamma$, so that it will be denoted by $B(\mathcal{C}, r)$.*

Proof. Refer to [16] for a proof that the coefficient $(\mathcal{C}(a_1)^{\epsilon(a_1)}\mathcal{C}(a_2)^{\epsilon(a_2)}\cdots \mathcal{C}(a_k)^{\epsilon(a_k)})$ is preserved when the arc is homotoped. □

DEFINITION 6.3. The family $\Phi_\kappa(K) = \{\sum_r B(\mathcal{C}, r)\}_{\mathcal{C}}$ is called the *quandle cocycle invariant* with respect to the (generalized) 2-cocycle $\kappa$.

The invariant agrees with the quandle cocycle invariant $\Phi_\phi(K)$ defined in [10] when the quandle module structure of the coefficient group $G$ is trivial, and with $\Phi_\phi(K)$ defined in [7], modulo the Alexander numbering convention in the Boltzmann weight in [7], when the coefficient group $G$ is a $\mathbb{Z}[t, t^{-1}]$-module and the quandle module structure is given by $\eta_{x,y}(a) = ta$ and $\tau_{x,y}(b) = (1-t)b$, for $x, y \in X$, $a, b \in G$. In the above papers, the state-sum form is used, instead of families. In this section we use families since it is easier to write for families of vectors.

We note that this definition contains the following data that were chosen and fixed: $X$, $G$, $\kappa$, and $K$.

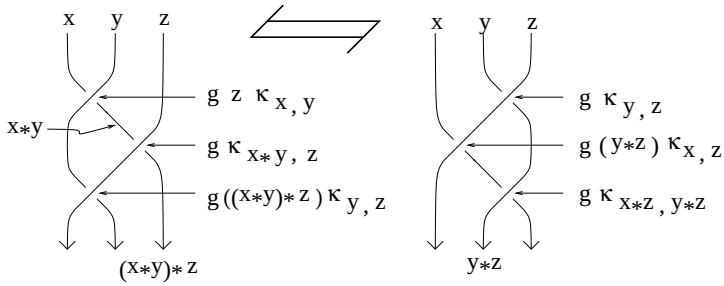


Fig. 10. Reidemeister type III move and 2-cocycle condition

**Theorem 6.4.** *The family $\Phi_\kappa(K)$ does not depend on the choice of a diagram of a given knot, so that it is a well-defined knot invariant.*

Proof. The proof is a routine check of Reidemeister moves, and it is straightforward for type I and II. The type III case is depicted, for one of the orientation choices, in Fig. 10, where $g$ denotes the sequence of colors of arcs that appear before the arc $\gamma$ intersects the crossings in consideration. It is seen from the figure that the contribution of the Boltzmann weights from these three crossings involved do not change before and after the move. The other orientation possibilities can be checked similarly. □

**Lemma 6.5.** *If $\kappa = \delta\lambda$ for some $\lambda \in C^1(X; A)$, then the cocycle invariant $\Phi_\kappa(L)$ is trivial for any link $L$. Moreover cohomologous cocycles yield the same invariants.*

Proof. The proof follows the same idea as in [10], and Proposition 5.6. □

**Proposition 6.6.** *In the case when the quandle* 2*-cocycle $\kappa$ is expressed by a group* 2*-cocycle as in* Proposition 3.1, *the invariant $\Phi_\kappa(K)$ is trivial for knots $K$ (not necessarily for links).*

Proof. Let $K$ denote a knot (not a link). Let $\pi = \pi_1(S^3 \setminus K)$ denote the fundamental group of the complement. The fundamental quandle $\pi_Q = \pi_Q(K)$ (see for example [16]) has $\pi$ as its enveloping group $G_{\pi_Q} = \pi$. Let $E = A \rtimes_\theta G$ be an extension of a group $G$ by an abelian group $A$ twisted by a group 2-cocycle $\theta \in Z^2_{\mathrm{Group}}(G; A)$. A quandle coloring of $K$ by $\mathrm{Conj}(G)$ is induced by a quandle homomorphism $f\colon \pi_Q \to \mathrm{Conj}(G)$ which naturally lifts to a group homomorphism $f\colon \pi \to G$, denoted by the same letter. There is an action of $\pi$ on $A$ given via the group homomorphism $f$. Explicitly, if $x \in \pi$ and $a \in A$, then $x \cdot a = s(f(x))i(a)s(f(x))^{-1}$ where $s\colon G \to E$ is the section that gives rise to the description $E = A \rtimes_\theta G$, and $i\colon A \to E$ is the inclusion.

The sphere theorem gives that $S^3 \setminus K$ is a $K(\pi, 1)$-space, and so $H^2_{\mathrm{Group}}(\pi; A)$ is trivial. Hence any group 2-cocycle is a coboundary for $\pi$. This implies that for generators $\alpha$, $\beta$ of $\pi$ or $\pi_Q$ corresponding to arcs of a given knot diagram, $\theta_{f(\alpha),f(\beta)} = f^{\#}\theta(\alpha, \beta) = \delta_G\gamma$, and by Lemma 3.5, $\kappa_{f(\alpha),f(\beta)} = f^{\#}\delta_Q\gamma$. Then Lemma 6.5 implies that the invariant is trivial. □

**Braids and the cocycle invariants.** Let a knot or a link $L$ be represented as a closed braid $\hat{w}$, where $w$ is a $k$-braid word. Let $X$ be a quandle and $G$ be a quandle module, keeping the setting given at the beginning of this section.

DEFINITION 6.7. Let $\vec{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_k) \in X^k$ for some positive integer $k$. Define a *weighted sum* on $G^k$ with respect to $\vec{x}$ by

$$\mathrm{WS}_{\vec{x}}(\vec{a}) = \sum_{i=1}^{k} u_i a_i = (x_k \cdots x_2)a_1 + (x_k \cdots x_3)a_2 + \cdots + x_k a_{k-1} + a_k,$$

where $\vec{a} = (a_1, \dots, a_k) \in G^k$ and $u_i = x_k \cdots x_{i+1}$ for $i = 1, \dots, k-1$, and $u_k = 1$.

Let $w$ be a $k$-braid word, $\vec{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_k) \in X^k$ be a vector of colors assigned to the bottom strings of $w$, and $\mathcal{C}$ be the unique coloring of $w$ by $X$ determined by $\vec{x}$. Let the vector $\vec{y} = (y_1, \dots y_k) \in X^k$ denote the color vector on the top strings that is induced by the vector $\vec{x} = (x_1, \dots x_k) \in X^k$ which is assigned at the bottom. Fix this coloring $\mathcal{C}$. Let $\alpha^0_{x,y} = \eta_{x,y} + \tau_{x,y}$ be a quandle 2-cocycle with coefficient group $G$ with $\kappa = 0$, where $G$ is an $X$-module. Then any color vector $\vec{a} = (a_1, \dots, a_k) \in G^k$ at the bottom strings uniquely determines a color vector $\vec{b} = (b_1, \dots, b_k) \in G^k$ at the top strings of $w$ with respect to $\alpha$, that is, $\vec{b} = M(w, \vec{x}) \cdot \vec{a}$. Recall that in this section the quandle module structure is given by the $G_X$-module structure.

**Lemma 6.8.** *Let $\alpha^0_{x,y} = \eta_{x,y} + \tau_{x,y}$ be a quandle 2-cocycle with $\kappa = 0$, and $\vec{b} = M(w, \vec{x}) \cdot \vec{a}$, as above. Then we have $\mathrm{WS}_{\vec{x}}(\vec{a}) = \mathrm{WS}_{\vec{y}}(\vec{b})$.*

Proof. It is sufficient to prove the statement for a generator and its inverse. The inverse case is similar, so we compute the case when $w = \sigma_i$ for some $i$, $1 \le i < k$. The only difference in the weighted sum, in this case, is the $i$th and $(i+1)$st terms. Let $u = x_k \cdots x_{i+2}$. For the bottom colors, the $i$th and $(i+1)$st terms are

$$\mathrm{WS}_{\vec{x}}(\vec{a}) = \cdots + u x_{i+1} a_i + u a_{i+1} + \cdots .$$

On the other hand, one computes

$$\mathrm{WS}_{\vec{y}}(\vec{b}) = \cdots + u(x_i * x_{i+1})a_{i+1} + u[x_{i+1}a_i + (1 - x_i * x_{i+1})a_{i+1}] + \cdots$$

which agrees with the above. □

**Theorem 6.9.** *Let $w$ be a $k$-braid word with crossings $\rho_\ell$, $\ell = 1, \dots, h$, and $\vec{x}$ a bottom color vector by a quandle $X$. Let $\alpha_{x,y} = \eta_{x,y} + \tau_{x,y} + \kappa_{x,y}$ be a quandle 2-cocycle with coefficient group $G$, a $G_X$-module, and $\vec{b} = M(w, \vec{x}) \cdot \vec{a}$. Here, the map $M$ corresponds to $\alpha$ with possibly non-zero $\kappa$. Then we have*

$$\mathrm{WS}_{\vec{y}}(\vec{b}) - \mathrm{WS}_{\vec{x}}(\vec{a}) = -\sum_{\ell=1}^{h} B(\mathcal{C}, \rho_\ell).$$

Proof. Let $M^0(w, \vec{x})$ denote the map corresponding to the 2-cocycle $\alpha^0_{x,y} = \eta_{x,y} + \tau_{x,y}$, which is obtained from $\alpha$ by setting $\kappa = 0$. The theorem follows from induction once we prove it for a braid generator and its inverse, and we show the case $w = \sigma_i$, as the inverse case is similar. Then we compute

$$\begin{aligned}\mathrm{WS}_{\vec{y}}(\vec{b}) = \mathrm{WS}_{\vec{y}}\big(M(\sigma_i, \vec{x}) \cdot \vec{a}\big) &= \mathrm{WS}_{\vec{y}}\big(M^0(\sigma_i, \vec{x}) \cdot \vec{a}\big) + B(\mathcal{C}, \sigma_i) \\ &= \mathrm{WS}_{\vec{x}}(\vec{a}) - B(\mathcal{C}, \sigma_i),\end{aligned}$$

where the first equality follows from the definitions, and the second equality follows from Lemma 6.8. Note that the braid generator represents a negative crossing in the definition of the quandle module invariant, and a positive crossing in the cocycle invariant, so that there is a negative sign for the weight $B(\mathcal{C}, \sigma_i)$. □

**Theorem 6.10.** *If a coloring $\mathcal{C}$ of $L$ by $X$ extends to a coloring of $L$ by the extension $E = G \times_\alpha X$, then the coloring contributes a trivial term (i.e., an integer in $\mathbb{Z}G$) to the generalized cocycle invariant $\Phi_\kappa(L)$.*

Proof. A given coloring agrees on the bottom and top strings, so that $\vec{x} = \vec{y}$. If the given coloring extends to $E$, we have $\vec{b} = M(\sigma_i, \vec{x}) \cdot \vec{a} = \vec{a}$, and in particular, $\mathrm{WS}_{\vec{y}}(\vec{b}) = \mathrm{WS}_{\vec{x}}(\vec{a})$. Then this theorem follows from Theorem 6.9. □

REMARK 6.11. In Livingston [33], the following situation is examined. Suppose that $E$ is a split extension of a group $G$ by an abelian group $A$, so that $0 \to A \to E \to G \to 1$ is a split exact sequence. Let $\rho\colon \pi = \pi_1(S^3 \setminus K) \to G$ denote a homomorphism. Then since there is an action of $G$ on $A$ via conjugation in $E$, there is a corresponding action of $\pi$ on $A$ given via $\rho$. Livingston examines when there is a lift of $\rho$ to $\tilde{\rho}\colon \pi \to E$ thereby generalizing Perko's theorem that any homomorphism $\rho\colon \pi \to \Sigma_3$ lifts to a homomorphism $\tilde{\rho}\colon \pi \to \Sigma_4$. In this situation, the permutation group $\Sigma_3$ acts on the Klein 4 group $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 = \{(1), (12)(34), (13)(24), (14)(23)\}$ via conjugation and the obvious section $s\colon \Sigma_3 \to \Sigma_4$. Livingston shows that there is a one-to-one correspondence between $A$-conjugacy classes of lifts of $\rho$ and elements in $H^1(\pi, \{A\})$ where the coefficients $\{A\}$ are twisted by the action of $\pi$ on $A$.

Consider a quandle coloring of a knot $K$ by a quandle $\mathrm{Conj}(G)$. Such a quandle coloring is a homomorphism from the fundamental quandle, $\pi_Q(K)$, of $K$, to $\mathrm{Conj}(G)$.

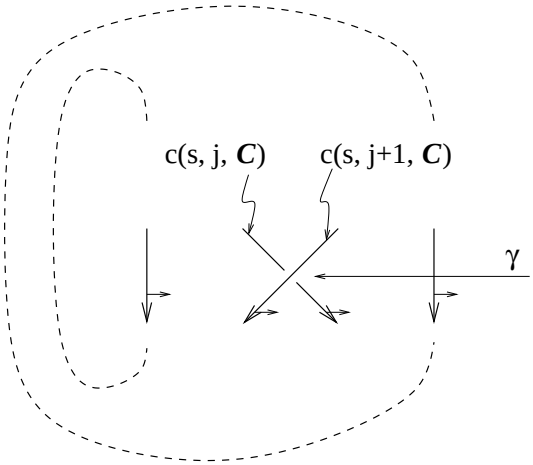


Fig. 11. Colors and arcs for braids

The fundamental group $\pi$ can be thought of as $\pi = G_{\pi_Q(K)}$. Thus a quandle coloring is a homomorphism $\rho$ as above.

Thus, we have the following cohomological characterization of lifting colorings. If a coloring lifts, then the coloring contributes a constant term to the cocycle invariant by Theorem 6.10 above, and it corresponds to a 1-dimensional cohomology class of $H^1(\pi, \{A\})$.

**Computations.** In this section we present a computational method using closed braid form. *We take a positive crossing as a positive generator, in this section.* Let $w = w_1 \cdots w_h$ be a braid word, where $w_s = \sigma_{j(s)}^{\epsilon(s)}$ is a standard generator or its inverse for each $s = 1, \ldots, h$. The braids are oriented downward and the normal points to the right. Then the target region is to the right of each crossing.

Let $X$ be a quandle and $\mathcal{C}$ be a coloring of $\hat{w}$ by $X$. Let $c(s, i, \mathcal{C})$ be the color of the $i$th string from the left, immediately above the $s$th crossing ($\tau_s$) for $\mathcal{C}$. Take the right-most region as the region at infinity, and take the closure of a given braid to the left, as depicted in Fig. 11. As an arc $\gamma$ to the target region, take an arc that goes horizontally from the right to left to the crossing, see Fig. 11. Then the Boltzmann weight at the $s$th crossing is given by

$$B(\mathcal{C}, \tau_s) = \big(c(s, n, \mathcal{C}) \cdots c(s, j+2, \mathcal{C})\big)\kappa_{c(s,j,\mathcal{C}),c(s,j+1,\mathcal{C})}$$

for a positive crossing (when $\epsilon(s) = 1$), and the 2-cocycle evaluation is replaced by $\kappa_{c(s+1,j,\mathcal{C}),c(s,j,\mathcal{C})}$ for a negative crossing, and with a negative sign in front. Note that the expression in front of $\kappa$ represents the action of this group element on the coefficient group, so that in the case of wreath product, for example, this can be written in terms of matrices. Also, if $j = n - 1$, then the expression in front is understood to be empty.

This formula can be used to evaluate the invariant for knots in closed braid form, and can be implemented in a computer.

EXAMPLE 6.12. We implemented the above formula for $R_3$ in *Maple* and obtained the following results, confirmed also by *Mathematica*. The action is in the wreath product; thus $R_3$ acts on $(\mathbb{Z}_q)^3$ by transpositions of factors. We also represent elements of $R_3$ by $\{1, 2, 3\}$ with the following correspondence in this example: $1 = (2\ 3)$, $2 = (1\ 3)$ and $3 = (1\ 2)$.

For $q = 0$, any 2-cocycle gave trivial invariant (each coloring contributes the zero vector, and the family of vectors is a family of zero vectors), for all 3-colorable knots in the knot table up to 9 crossings. Thus we conjecture that $q = 0$ gives rise to the trivial invariant.

Let $h(i, j) = {}^T(f_1(i, j), f_2(i, j), f_3(i, j))$ denote a vector valued 2-cochain. Then for $q = 3$, the following defines a 2-cocycle:

$$f_1(3, 1) = f_3(3, 1) = f_1(2, 3) = f_1(2, 1) = f_3(2, 1) = 1,$$
$$f_2(3, 1) = f_2(3, 2) = f_2(1, 3) = f_1(1, 2) = f_2(1, 2) = 2$$

and all the other values are zeros. Then we obtain the following results.

- $\Phi_\kappa(K) = \{\sqcup_9(0, 0, 0)\}$ for $K = 6_1, 8_{10}, 8_{11}, 8_{20}, 9_1, 9_6, 9_{23}, 9_{24}$, where $\{\sqcup_9(0, 0, 0)\}$ represents the family consisting of 9 copies of $(0, 0, 0)$ (similar notations are used below).
- $\Phi_\kappa(K) = \{\sqcup_3(0, 0, 0), \sqcup_6(1, 1, 1)\}$ for $K = 3_1, 7_4, 7_7, 9_{10}, 9_{38}$.
- $\Phi_\kappa(K) = \{\sqcup_3(0, 0, 0), \sqcup_6(2, 2, 2)\}$ for $K = 8_5, 8_{15}, 8_{19}, 8_{21}, 9_2, 9_4, 9_{11}, 9_{15}, 9_{16}, 9_{17}, 9_{28}, 9_{29}, 9_{34}, 9_{40}$.
- $\Phi_\kappa(K) = \{\sqcup_9(0, 0, 0), \sqcup_{18}(1, 1, 1)\}$ for $K = 9_{35}, 9_{47}, 9_{48}$.
- $\Phi_\kappa(K) = \{\sqcup_3(0, 0, 0), \sqcup_{12}(1, 1, 1), \sqcup_{12}(2, 2, 2)\}$ for $K = 8_{18}$.
- $\Phi_\kappa(K) = \{\sqcup_{15}(0, 0, 0), \sqcup_6(1, 1, 1), \sqcup_6(2, 2, 2)\}$ for $K = 9_{37}, 9_{46}$.

REMARK 6.13. With the same cocycle as the preceding example, we computed the invariants for the mirror images with the same orientations. The results are such that the values 1 and 2 are exchanged in all values (thus we conjecture that this is the case in general, at least for $R_3$). For example, the mirror image of the trefoil has $\Phi_\kappa(K) = \{\sqcup_3(0, 0, 0), \sqcup_6(2, 2, 2)\}$ as its invariant. Hence those with asymmetric values of the invariant are proven to be non-amphicheiral by this invariant. Specifically, 22 knots among 33 are detected to be non-amphicheiral.

## 7. Invariants for knotted surfaces

**Definitions.** The cocycle invariants are defined for knotted surfaces in 4-space in exactly the same manner as in Section 6 as follows. Let $X$ be a finite quandle and $\mathbb{Z}(X)$ be its quandle algebra with generators $\{\eta_{x,y}^{\pm 1}\}_{x,y\in X}$ and $\{\tau_{x,y}\}_{x,y\in X}$. Let $G$ be an

abelian group that is a $G_X$-module. Recall that this induces a $\mathbb{Z}(X)$-module structure given by $\eta_{x,y}g = yg$ and $\tau_{x,y}(g) = (1 - x * y)g$ for $g \in G$ and $x,\ y \in X$. Let $\kappa_{x,y,z}$ be a generalized quandle 3-cocycle of $X$ with the coefficient group $G$. Thus the generalized 3-cocycle condition, in this setting, is written as

$$\begin{aligned} &w\kappa_{x,y,z} + \kappa_{x*z,y*z,w} + \big((y * z) * w\big)\kappa_{x,z,w} + \kappa_{y,z,w} \\ &= \big(((x * y) * z) * w\big)\kappa_{y,z,w} + \kappa_{x*y,z,w} + (z * w)\kappa_{x,y,w} + \kappa_{x*w,y*w,z*w}. \end{aligned}$$

We require further that $\kappa_{x,x,y} = \kappa_{x,y,y} = 0$. A cocycle invariant of knotted surfaces will be defined using such a 3-cocycle.

A knotted surface diagram $K$ is given in 3-space. We assume the surface is oriented and use orientation normals to indicate the orientation. In a neighborhood of each triple point, there are eight regions that are separated by the sheets of the surface since the triple point looks like the intersection of the 3-coordinate planes in some parametrization. The region into which all normals point is called the *target* region. Let $\gamma$ be an arc from the region at infinity of the 3-space to the target region of a given triple point $r$. Assume that $\gamma$ intersects $K$ transversely in a finitely many points thereby missing double point curves, branch points, and triple points. Let $a_i$, $i = 1, \ldots, k$, in this order, be the sheets of $K$ that intersect $\gamma$ from the region at infinity to the triple point $r$. Let $\mathcal{C}$ be a coloring of $K$ by a fixed finite quandle $X$.

DEFINITION 7.1. The *Boltzmann weight* $B(\mathcal{C}, r, \gamma)$ for the triple point $r$, for a coloring $\mathcal{C}$, with respect to $\gamma$, is defined by

$$B(\mathcal{C}, r, \gamma) = \pm\big(\mathcal{C}(a_1)^{\epsilon(a_1)}\mathcal{C}(a_2)^{\epsilon(a_2)} \cdots \mathcal{C}(a_k)^{\epsilon(a_k)}\big)\kappa_{x,y,z} \in \mathbb{Z}G,$$

where $x$, $y$, $z$ are the colors at the given triple point $r$ ($x$ is assigned on the bottom sheet from which the normals of the middle and top sheets point, and $y$ is assigned to the middle sheet from which the normal of the top sheet points, and $z$ is assigned to the top sheet). The sign $\pm$ in front is determined by whether $r$ is positive (+) or negative (−). The exponent $\epsilon(a_j)$ is 1 is the arc $\gamma$ crosses the arc $a_j$ against its normal, and is $-1$ otherwise, for $j = 1, \ldots, k$.

**Lemma 7.2.** *The Boltzmann weight does not depend on the choice of the arc $\gamma$, so that it will be denoted by $B(\mathcal{C}, r)$.*

Proof. As in the classical case, the coefficient is preserved when the arc $\gamma$ is homotoped, cf. [16]. □

DEFINITION 7.3. The family $\Phi_\kappa(K) = \{\sum_r B(\mathcal{C}, r)\}_{\mathcal{C}\in \mathrm{Col}_X(K)}$ is called the quandle cocycle invariant with respect to the (generalized) 3-cocycle $\kappa$.

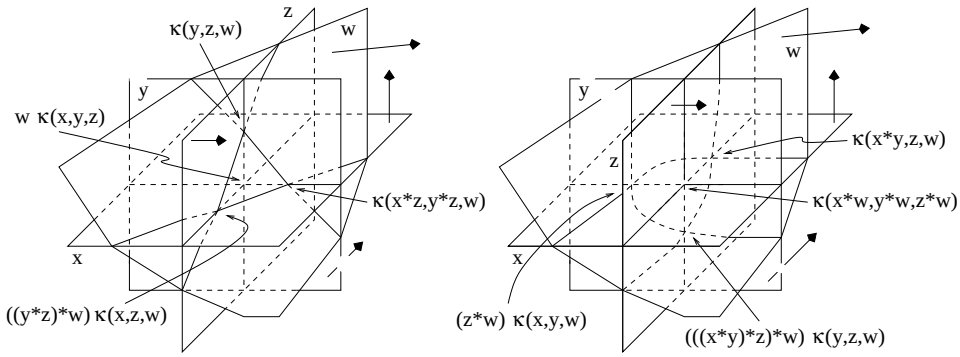


Fig. 12. Contributions for the tetrahedral move

**Theorem 7.4.** *The family $\Phi_\kappa(K)$ does not depend on the choice of a diagram of a given knotted surface, so that it is a well-defined knot invariant.*

Proof. The proof is a routine check of Roseman moves, analogues of Reidemeister moves. In particular, the analogue of the type III Reidemeister move is called the tetrahedral move, and is a generic plane passing through the origin that is the triple point formed by coordinate planes. In Fig. 12, such a move is depicted. A choice of normal vectors and quandle colorings are also depicted in the figure. The sheet labeled $w$ is the top sheet, and the next highest sheet is labeled by $z$, the bottom is $x$. The region at infinity is chosen (for simplicity) to be the region at the top right, into which all normals point. The Boltzmann weight at each triple point is also indicated. The sum of the weights for the LHS and RHS are exactly those for the 3-cocycle condition. Other choices for orientations, and other moves, are checked similarly. In particular, by assuming that the cocycle $\kappa$ satisfies the quandle condition $\kappa_{x,x,y} = \kappa_{x,y,y} = 0$, we ensure that the quantity is invariant under the Roseman move in which a branch point passes through another sheet. □

A proof similar to that of Lemma 6.5 implies the following, where the distribution of coboundary terms is depicted in Fig. 13.

**Lemma 7.5.** *If $\kappa = \delta\zeta$ for some $\zeta \in C^2(X; A)$, then the cocycle invariant $\Phi_\kappa(F)$ is trivial for any knotted surface $F$. Moreover cohomologous cocycles yield the same invariants.*

**Computations.** We develop a computational method, based on Satoh's method [39], of computing this cocycle invariant for twist-spun knots using the closed braid form. First we review Satoh's method. A movie description of one full twist of a classical knot $K$ is depicted in Fig. 14 from (1) through (5). Strictly

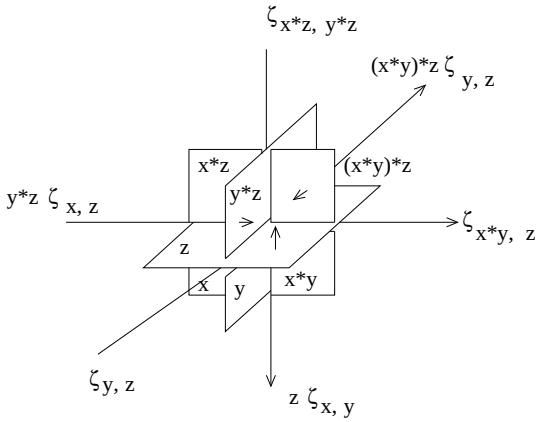


Fig. 13. Coboundary terms distributed

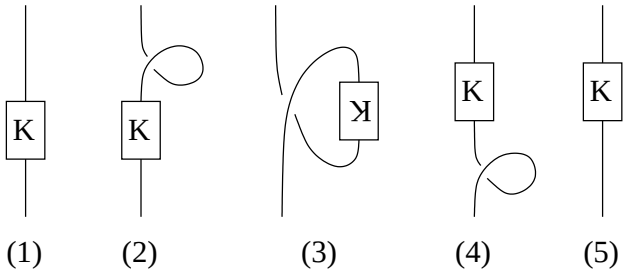


Fig. 14. A movie of twist spinning

speaking, $K$ is a tangle with two end points, and the tangle is twisted about an axis containing these end points. For the twist-spun trefoil, a diagram of the trefoil (with two end points) goes in the place of $K$.

It is seen from this movie that branch points appear between (1) and (2), and (4) and (5), when type I Reidemeister moves occur in the movie. Triple points appear when $K$ goes over an arc between (2) and (3), and goes under it between (3) and (4). Each triple point corresponds to a crossing of the diagram $K$. This movie will provide a broken surface diagram by taking the continuous traces of the movie, which is depicted in Fig. 15. Horizontal cross sections of Fig. 15 correspond to (1) through (5) as indicated at the top of the figure. Thus between (1) and (2) there is a branch point, for example. A choice of normal vectors is also depicted by short arrows.

Now we apply this method to closed braid form. Let $w$ be a diagram corresponding to a braid word of $n$ strings. Then construct a tangle with two end points at top and bottom, by stretching the left-most end points and closing all the other end points of the braid, as depicted in Fig. 16. Let $K$ be this tangle, as well as the corresponding

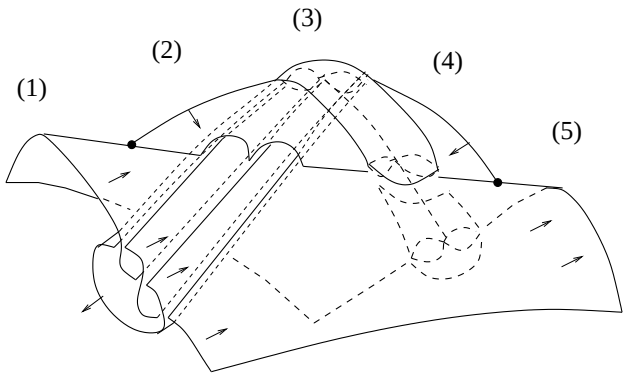


Fig. 15. A part of a diagram of twist-spun trefoil

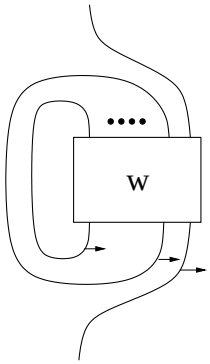


Fig. 16. A tangle construction from a braid

knot and knot diagram. A choice of normal vectors are also depicted. Let $\mathrm{Tw}^{\ell}(K)$ be the diagram of the $\ell$-twist spun of $K$ obtained by Satoh's method.

Let $w$ (as a braid word, written as the same letter as the diagram), be $w_1, \ldots, w_h$, where each $w_s$ is a standard generator or its inverse, $\sigma_{j(s)}^{\epsilon(s)}$. In this section we use the positive crossing as a standard generator. Recall that each crossing gives rise to a triple point in the diagram of a twist-spun knot, when Satoh's method is applied. In Fig. 17, the triple point corresponding to $w_s = \sigma_j$ is depicted. This figure represents a triple point $T_1^l(s)$ that is formed when the crossing $w_s$ goes through a sheet between steps (2) and (3) in Fig. 15 for $j = j(s)$ and $\epsilon(w_s) > 0$ (i.e., $w_s$ is the $j$th braid generator $\sigma_j$, and the crossing is positive). There is another triple point $T_1^r(s)$ formed by the same crossing between steps (3) and (4). The superscripts $l$ and $r$ represents that they appear in the left and right of Fig. 15, respectively. It is seen that $T_1^l(s)$ and $T_1^r(s)$ are negative and positive triple points with the right-hand rule, respectively, with respect to the normal vectors specified in Figs. 15 and 16. Then there are a pair of triple points

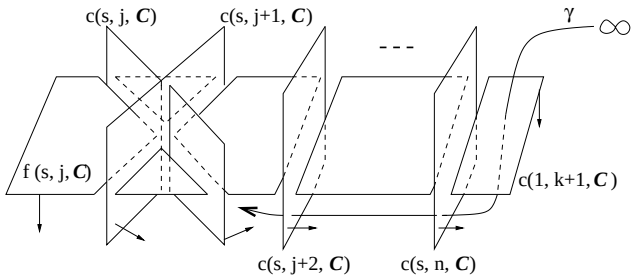


Fig. 17. The weight at a triple point

$T_u^l(s)$ and $T_u^r(s)$ for the left and right, respectively, for the $u$th twist.

Let a coloring $\mathcal{C}$ by a quandle $X$ of the diagram $\mathrm{Tw}^\ell(K)$ be given. At the triple point $T_1^l(s)$, the triple of colors that contribute to the cocycle invariant are depicted in Fig. 17 as $f(s, j, \mathcal{C})$, $c(s, j, \mathcal{C})$ and $c(s, j+1, \mathcal{C})$ for the top, middle, and bottom sheet, respectively. Here $f$ represents a color of the face left to the crossing $w_s$, and $j$ in $c(s, j, \mathcal{C})$ represents the $j$th string from the left in the braid $w$ (as $w_s = \sigma_j$). The color of the horizontal sheet in Fig. 17 at the right-most region outside of the braid is the same as the color $c(1, k, \mathcal{C})$ of the $k$th string of the braid $w$ at the top and bottom, since the tangle goes through the $k$th string, see Figs. 16 and 14. Thus we obtain

$$f(s, j, \mathcal{C}) = (\cdots((\cdots((c(1, k, \mathcal{C}) \bar{*} c(s, k, \mathcal{C})) \bar{*} c(s, k-1, \mathcal{C})) \bar{*} \cdots) \bar{*} c(s, j, \mathcal{C}))\cdots),$$

where for any $b$, $c \in X$ the unique element $a \in X$ with $a*b = c$ is denoted by $a = c\bar{*}b$. From Figs. 15 and 17, it is seen that the target region of $T_1^l(s)$ is to the bottom right. Thus from the region at infinity, we choose an arc $\gamma$ as depicted in Fig. 17, that goes through the sheet with color $c(1, k, \mathcal{C})$, then hits all the sheets corresponding to the $n$th through $(j+2)$th braid strings, to the target region. Only the first sheet is oriented coherently with the direction of the arc we chose. Hence the sequence of quandle elements in the Boltzmann weight that corresponds to the arc $\gamma$ is

$$c(1, k, \mathcal{C})^{-1} c(s, n, \mathcal{C}) c(s, n-1, \mathcal{C}) \cdots c(s, j+2, \mathcal{C}).$$

Similar arcs can be chosen for $T_1^r(s)$ as well, giving the same sequence. Thus we obtain the Boltzmann weights as follows.

$$B(\mathcal{C}, T_1^l(s)) = \begin{cases} -(c(1, k, \mathcal{C})^{-1} c(s, n, \mathcal{C}) \cdots c(s, j+2, \mathcal{C}))\kappa_{f(s,j,\mathcal{C}),\ c(s,j,\mathcal{C}),\ c(s,j+1,\mathcal{C})} \\ \qquad\qquad \text{if} \quad \epsilon(T_1^l(s)) < 0 \\ c(1, k, \mathcal{C})^{-1} c(s, n, \mathcal{C}) \cdots c(s, j+2, \mathcal{C})\kappa_{f(s,j,\mathcal{C}),\ c(s+1,j,\mathcal{C}),\ c(s,j,\mathcal{C})} \\ \qquad\qquad \text{if} \quad \epsilon(T_1^l(s)) > 0, \end{cases}$$

Table 3. A table of cocycle invariants for twist spun knots, part I

| Knot $K$ | $\Phi_\kappa(\mathrm{Tw}^2(K))$ |
|---|---|
| $3_1$ | $\sqcup_9(0,0,0)$. |
| $6_1$ | $\sqcup_3(0,0,0)$, $(-q_2,0,q_2)$, $(q_2,q_1,-q_1-q_2)$, $(q_1,0,-q_1)$, |
| | $(0,-q_1,q_1)$, $(-q_1+q_2,q_1-q_2,0)$, $(-q_2,-q_1+q_2,q_1)$. |
| $7_4$ | $\sqcup_3(0,0,0)$, $(-q_2,-2q_1,2q_1+q_2)$, $(-q_1+q_2,q_1,-q_2)$, |
| | $(-q_1,2q_1,-q_1)$ , $(-q_1,-q_1,2q_1)$, $(q_2,-q_2,0)$, $(-q_2,q_2,0)$. |
| $7_7$ | $\sqcup_3(0,0,0)$, $\sqcup_2(q_1,0,-q_1)$, $\sqcup_2(0,-q_1,q_1)$, $\sqcup_2(-q_1,q_1,0)$. |
| $8_5$ | $\sqcup_9(0,0,0)$. |
| $8_{10}$ | $\sqcup_9(0,0,0)$. |
| $8_{11}$ | $\sqcup_3(0,0,0)$, $(q_2,0,-q_2)$, $(-q_2,-q_1,q_1+q_2)$, $(-q_1,0,q_1)$, |
| | $(0,q_1,-q_1)$, $(q_1-q_2,-q_1+q_2,0)$, $(q_2,q_1-q_2,-q_1)$. |
| $8_{15}$ | $\sqcup_3(0,0,0)$, $\sqcup_3(0,-q_1,q_1)$, $\sqcup_3(-q_1,q_1,0)$. |
| $8_{18}$ | $\sqcup_9(0,0,0)$, $\sqcup_6(q_1,0,-q_1)$, $\sqcup_6(-q_1,q_1,0)$, $\sqcup_6(0,-q_1,q_1)$. |
| $8_{19}$ | $\sqcup_9(0,0,0)$. |
| $8_{20}$ | $\sqcup_9(0,0,0)$. |
| $8_{21}$ | $\sqcup_9(0,0,0)$. |

$$B(\mathcal{C},T_1^r(s)) = \begin{cases} c(1,k,\mathcal{C})^{-1}c(s,n,\mathcal{C})\cdots c(s,j+2,\mathcal{C})\kappa_{c(s,j,\mathcal{C}),\ c(s,j+1,\mathcal{C}),\ c(1,k,\mathcal{C})} \\ \qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad \text{if} \quad \epsilon(T_1^r(s))>0 \\ -(c(1,k,\mathcal{C})^{-1}c(s,n,\mathcal{C})\cdots c(s,j+2,\mathcal{C}))\kappa_{c(s+1,j,\mathcal{C}),\ c(s,j,\mathcal{C}),\ c(1,k,\mathcal{C})} \\ \qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad \text{if} \quad \epsilon(T_1^r(s))<0. \end{cases}$$

For the $u$th twist, the cocycle evaluation is replaced by

$$\kappa_{f(s,j,\mathcal{C})*c(1,k,\mathcal{C})^u,\ c(s,j,\mathcal{C})*c(1,k,\mathcal{C})^u,\ c(s,j+1,\mathcal{C})*c(1,k,\mathcal{C})^u}$$

for a positive triple point $T_u^l(s)$, and similar changes (multiplication by $*c(1,k,\mathcal{C})^u$ for every term) are made for the other triple points accordingly, where $x*y^\ell$ denotes the $\ell$-fold product $(\cdots((x*y)*y)\cdots)*y$.

With these weights the cocycle invariant is computed by

$$\Phi_\kappa(\mathrm{Tw}^\ell(K)) = \left\{ \sum_{u=1}^{\ell}\sum_{s=1}^{h}\left[B(\mathcal{C},T_u^l(s)) + B(\mathcal{C},T_u^r(s))\right]\right\}_{\mathcal{C}}.$$

This formula, again, can be implemented in computer calculations.

EXAMPLE 7.6. We obtained the following calculations by *Maple* and *Mathematica*. Let $X = R_3$, the coefficient group $\mathbb{Z}^3$ with the wreath product action (elements of $R_3 = \{1,2,3\}$ acting on $\mathbb{Z}^3$ by transpositions of factors, $1 = (2\ 3)$, $2 = (1\ 3)$, and

Table 4. A table of cocycle invariants for twist spun knots, part II

| Knot $K$ | $\Phi_\kappa(\mathrm{Tw}^2(K))$ |
|---|---|
| $9_1$ | $\sqcup_9(0,0,0)$. |
| $9_2$ | $\sqcup_3(0,0,0)$, $\sqcup_2(0,-q_1,q_1)$, $\sqcup_2(-q_1,q_1,0)$, $\sqcup_2(q_1,0,-q_1)$. |
| $9_4$ | $\sqcup_3(0,0,0)$, $\sqcup_3(0,q_1,-q_1)$, $\sqcup_3(q_1,-q_1,0)$. |
| $9_6$ | $\sqcup_3(0,0,0)$, $\sqcup_2(2q_1,0,-2q_1)$, $\sqcup_2(0,-2q_1,2q_1)$, $\sqcup_2(-2q_1,2q_1,0)$. |
| $9_{10}$ | $\sqcup_4(0,0,0)$, $(-q_2-q_1,0,q_1+q_2)$, $(q_2,-q_1,q_1-q_2)$, |
| | $(-2q_1,q_1,q_1)$, $(-q_1+q_2,2q_1-q_2,-q_1)$, $(q_1-q_2,-2q_1+q_2,q_1)$. |
| $9_{11}$ | $\sqcup_3(0,0,0)$, $\sqcup_6(q_1,0,-q_1)$. |
| $9_{15}$ | $\sqcup_3(0,0,0)$, $\sqcup_2(0,-q_1,q_1)$, $\sqcup_2(-q_1,q_1,0)$, $\sqcup_2(q_1,0,-q_1)$. |
| $9_{16}$ | $\sqcup_3(0,0,0)$, $\sqcup_2(-q_1,0,q_1)$, $\sqcup_2(q_1,-q_1,0)$, $\sqcup_2(0,q_1,-q_1)$. |
| $9_{17}$ | $\sqcup_3(0,0,0)$, $\sqcup_6(-q_1,0,q_1)$. |
| $9_{23}$ | $\sqcup_3(0,0,0)$, $\sqcup_3(0,-q_1,q_1)$, $\sqcup_3(-q_1,q_1,0)$. |
| $9_{24}$ | $\sqcup_9(0,0,0)$. |
| $9_{28}$ | $\sqcup_3(0,0,0)$, $\sqcup_3(-q_1,0,q_1)$, $\sqcup_3(0,q_1,-q_1)$. |
| $9_{29}$ | $\sqcup_3(0,0,0)$, $(-q_2,-q_1,q_1+q_2)$, $(q_2,0,-q_2)$, $(0,q_1,-q_1)$, |
| | $(-q_1,0,q_1)$, $(q_2,q_1-q_2,-q_1)$, $(q_1-q_2,-q_1+q_2,0)$. |
| $9_{34}$ | $\sqcup_3(0,0,0)$, $\sqcup_6(-q_1,0,q_1)$. |
| $9_{35}$ | $\sqcup_3(0,0,0)$, $\sqcup_8(-q_1,0,q_1)$, $\sqcup_3(0,q_1,-q_1)$, $(q_1,0,-q_1)$, $(q_1,-q_1,0)$, $(0,-q_2,q_2)$, |
| | $(0,2q_2,-2q_2)$, $(-2q_1,0,2q_1)$, $(-q_2,-2q_1-q_2,2q_1+2q_2)$, $(q_1,q_2,-q_1-q_2)$, |
| | $(0,q_1+q_2,-q_1-q_2)$, $(-q_1,-2q_2,q_1+2q_2)$, $(-q_1,2q_1-q_2,-q_1+q_2)$, |
| | $(q_1,-q_1+q_2,-q_2)$, $(0,q_1-q_2,-q_1+q_2)$, $(q_1-q_2,-q_1+2q_2,-q_2)$. |
| $9_{37}$ | $\sqcup_3(0,0,0)$, $\sqcup_5(0,-q_1,q_1)$, $\sqcup_5(q_1,0,-q_1)$, $\sqcup_2(-q_2,0,q_2)$, $(-q_2,q_2,0)$, |
| | $(-q_2,q_1,-q_1+q_2)$, $(q_1+q_2,-q_1,-q_2)$, $\sqcup_2(q_2,q_1,-q_1-q_2)$, |
| | $(q_1,-2q_1-2q_2,q_1+2q_2)$, $(q_1,2q_2,-q_1-2q_2)$, $(-q_1+q_2,q_1-q_2,0)$, |
| | $\sqcup_2(-q_2,-q_1+q_2,q_1)$, $(-q_1+q_2,q_1-q_2,0)$, $(q_2,-q_1-q_2,q_1)$. |
| $9_{38}$ | $\sqcup_3(0,0,0)$, $(-q_2,-2q_1,2q_1+q_2)$, $(-q_1+q_2,q_1,-q_2)$, |
| | $(-q_1,2q_1,-q_1)$, $(-q_1,-q_1,2q_1)$, $(q_2,-q_2,0)$, $(-q_2,q_2,0)$. |
| $9_{40}$ | $\sqcup_3(0,0,0)$, $\sqcup_3(-q_1,0,q_1)$, $\sqcup_3(0,q_1,-q_1)$. |
| $9_{46}$ | $\sqcup_{17}(0,0,0)$, $\sqcup_3(q_1,-q_1,0)$, $\sqcup_3(0,q_1,-q_1)$, $(-q_2,q_2,0)$, $(q_2,-q_2,0)$, |
| | $(q_1+q_2,0,-q_1-q_2)$, $(-q_1-q_2,0,q_1+q_2)$. |
| $9_{47}$ | $\sqcup_5(0,0,0)$, $\sqcup_{12}(q_1,0,-q_1)$, $\sqcup_3(0,q_1,-q_1)$, $\sqcup_3(q_1,-q_1,0)$, |
| | $(q_2,-q_2,0)$, $(-q_2,q_2,0)$, $(-q_1-q_2,0,q_1+q_2)$, $(q_1+q_2,0,-q_2-q_1)$. |
| $9_{48}$ | $\sqcup_3(0,0,0)$, $\sqcup_3(0,-q_1,q_1)$, $\sqcup_3(q_1,-q_1,0)$, $\sqcup_3(-q_1,q_1,0)$, $\sqcup_3(0,q_1,-q_1)$, |
| | $\sqcup_2(q_1,0,-q_1)$, $(q_2,-q_2,0)$, $(-q_2,q_2,0)$, $(-q_1,2q_1,-q_1)$, $(-q_1,-q_1,2q_1)$, |
| | $(-q_2,-2q_1,2q_1+q_2)$, $(q_1+q_2,-q_1,-q_2)$, $(-2q_1-q_2,q_1,q_1+q_2)$, |
| | $(-q_1+q_2,q_1,-q_2)$, $(-q_2,-q_1+q_2,q_1)$, $(-q_1+q_2,q_1-q_2,0)$. |

$3 = (1\ 2)$). Let $h(i,j,k) = {}^T(f_1(i,j,k), f_2(i,j,k), f_3(i,j,k))$ denote a vector valued 3-cochain, where $f_\ell(i,j,k) \in \mathbb{Z}$. Let $q_1$, $q_2 \in \mathbb{Z}$ be arbitrary elements. Then the following values, with all the other unspecified ones being zero, defined a 3-cocycle $h$:

$$f_1(1,2,1) = f_2(1,2,3) = f_3(3,1,2) = -f_1(1,3,1) = -f_1(1,3,2) = q_1,$$
$$f_1(2,1,3) = f_1(3,1,2) = -f_1(2,3,2) = q_2,$$

$$f_1(3,2,3) = -q_1 - q_2.$$

With this 3-cocycle the cocycle invariant for the 2-twist spun knots for 3-colorable knots in the table are evaluated as listed in Table 3 (up to 8 crossings) and Table 4 (9 crossing knots). The notations used in the table for families of vectors are similar to those in Example 6.12.

**Non-invertibility of knotted surfaces.** The computations of the cocycle invariant imply non-invertibility of twist-spun knots. Here is a brief overview on non-invertibility of knotted surfaces:

- Fox [18] presented a non-invertible knotted sphere using knot modules as follows. The first homology $H_1(\tilde{X})$ of the infinite cyclic cover $\tilde{X}$ of the complement $X$ of the sphere in $S^4$ of Fox's Example 10 is $\mathbb{Z}[t,t^{-1}]/(2-t)$ as a $\Lambda = \mathbb{Z}[t,t^{-1}]$-module. Fox's Example 11 can be recognized as the same sphere as Example 10 in [18] with its orientation reversed. Its Alexander polynomial is $(1-2t)$, and therefore, not equivalent to Example 10.

Knot modules, however, fail to detect non-invertibility of the 2-twist spun trefoil (whose knot module is $\Lambda/(2-t, 1-2t)$). Contrarily the cocycle invariants fail to detect non-invertibility of ribbon 2-knots such as Fox's Example 10 (and 11).

- Farber [15] showed that the 2-twist spun trefoil was non-invertible using the Farber-Levine pairing (see also Hillman [22]).
- Ruberman [38] used Casson-Gordon invariants to prove the same result, with other new examples of non-invertible knotted spheres.
- Neither technique applies directly to the same knot with trivial 1-handles attached (in this case the knot is a surface with a higher genus). Kawauchi [28, 29] has generalized the Farber-Levine pairing to higher genus surfaces, showing that such a surface is also non-invertible.
- Gordon [19] showed that a large family of knotted spheres are indeed non-invertible. His extensive lists are: (1) the 2-twist spin of a rational knot $K$ is invertible if and only if $K$ is amphicheiral; (2) if $m$, $p$, $q$ are $> 1$, then the $m$-twist spin of the $(p,q)$ torus knot is non-invertible, (3) if $m \geq 3$ then the $m$-twist spin of a hyperbolic knot $K$ is invertible if and only if $K$ is (+)-amphicheiral. His topological argument uses the fact that the twist spun knots are fibered 2-knots. In particular, the corresponding results are unknown for surfaces of higher genuses.
- Iwakiri [23] found an infinite family of non-invertible twist spins of 2-bridge knots such that the non-inveritibility can be shown by Gordon's method but cannot be shown using the cocycle invariants with $X = G = R_n$.

Then the cocycle invariant provided a diagrammatic method of detecting non-invertibility of knotted surfaces. In [10], it was shown using the cocycle invariant that the 2-twist spun trefoil is non-invertible. Furthermore, as was mentioned in Section 1, all the surfaces that are obtained from the 2-twist spun trefoil by attaching trivial 1-handles, called its *stabilized* surfaces, are also non-invertible, since the stabilized sur-

faces have the same cocycle invariant as the original knotted sphere. The result was generalized by Asami and Satoh [2] to an infinite family of twist spins of torus knots.

The computations given in Example 7.6 can be carried out for the 2-twist spun knots with orientations reversed. Specifically, if the orientation of the surface is reversed, then the computations change in the following manner. First, the face colors are determined by

$$f(s, j, \mathcal{C}) = (\cdots((\cdots((c(1, k, \mathcal{C}) * c(s, k, \mathcal{C})) * c(s, k-1, \mathcal{C})) * \cdots) * c(s, j, \mathcal{C}))\cdots).$$

The target region of $T_1^l(s)$ depicted in Fig. 17 is the top left region in the figure, so that the sequence of colors that an arc $\gamma$ meets is

$$c(s, n, \mathcal{C})^{-1} c(s, n-1, \mathcal{C})^{-1} \cdots c(s, j, \mathcal{C})^{-1},$$

where $\gamma$ does not cross the horizontal sheet in the figure but goes through $k$th through $j$th vertical sheets from left. Thus we obtain

$$B(\mathcal{C}, T_1^l(s)) = \begin{cases} c(s, n, \mathcal{C})^{-1} \cdots c(s, j, \mathcal{C})^{-1} \kappa_{f(s, j+2, \mathcal{C}),\ c(s+1, j+1, \mathcal{C}),\ c(s, j+1, \mathcal{C})} \\ \qquad \text{if} \quad \epsilon(T_1^l(s)) > 0 \\ -(c(s, n, \mathcal{C})^{-1} \cdots c(s, j, \mathcal{C})^{-1}) \kappa_{f(s, j+2, \mathcal{C}),\ c(s, j+1, \mathcal{C}),\ c(s, j, \mathcal{C})} \\ \qquad \text{if} \quad \epsilon(T_1^l(s)) < 0, \end{cases}$$

$$B(\mathcal{C}, T_1^r(s)) = \begin{cases} -(c(s, n, \mathcal{C})^{-1} \cdots c(s, j, \mathcal{C})^{-1}) \kappa_{c(s+1, j+1, \mathcal{C})\ c(s, j+1, \mathcal{C})\ c(1, k, \mathcal{C})} \\ \qquad \text{if} \quad \epsilon(T_1^r(s)) < 0 \\ c(s, n, \mathcal{C})^{-1} \cdots c(s, j, \mathcal{C})^{-1} \kappa_{c(s, j+1, \mathcal{C})\ c(s, j, \mathcal{C})\ c(1, k, \mathcal{C})} \\ \qquad \text{if} \quad \epsilon(T_1^r(s)) > 0. \end{cases}$$

The computational results are presented in Tables 5 and 6. By comparing the computational results, we conclude that such 2-twist spun knots $\tau^2(K)$ are non-invertible, for those knots that give rise to distinct values for the cocycle invariants, as well as all of their stabilized surfaces.

Furthermore, it is easily seen that if the contribution to the invariant for a coloring $\mathcal{C}$ is a vector $(a, b, c) \in \mathbb{Z}^3$ for the 2-twist spun $\tau^2(K)$ of a classical knot $K$, then the contribution for the corresponding coloring $\mathcal{C}$ is the vector $k(a, b, c)$ for the $2k$-twist spun $\tau^{2k}(K)$ of $K$. Hence non-invertibility determined by this invariant for 2-twist spuns can be applied to $2k$-twist spuns for all positive integer $k$ as well.

We summarize the result in the following theorem.

**Theorem 7.7.** *For any positive integer $k$, the $2k$-twist spun of all the 3-colorable knots in the table up to 9 crossings excluding $8_{20}$, as well as their stabilized surfaces of any genus, are non-invertible.*

The cocycle invariant in Example 7.6 fails to detect non-invertibility of $8_{20}$ and we obtain no conclusion.

Table 5. A table of cocycle invariants with orientations reversed, part I

| Knot $K$ | $\Phi_\kappa(\mathrm{Tw}^2(K))$ |
|---|---|
| $3_1$ | $\sqcup_3(0,0,0),\ \sqcup_2(q_1,0,-q_1),\ \sqcup_2(0,-q_1,q_1),\ \sqcup_2(-q_1,q_1,0).$ |
| $6_1$ | $\sqcup_3(0,0,0),\ (0,q_1,-q_1),\ (q_1,-q_1,0),\ (0,-q_2,q_2),$ |
| | $(q_1,q_2,-q_1-q_2),\ (q_1,-q_1+q_2,-q_2),\ (0,q_1-q_2,-q_1+q_2).$ |
| $7_4$ | $\sqcup_4(0,0,0),\ (0,q_1+q_2,-q_1-q_2),\ (q_1,-q_2,-q_1+q_2),$ |
| | $(2q_1,-q_1,-q_1),\ (q_1,-2q_1+q_2,q_1-q_2),\ (-q_1,2q_1-q_2,-q_1+q_2).$ |
| $7_7$ | $\sqcup_3(0,0,0),\ (q_1,q_1+q_2,-2q_1-q_2),\ (0,-2q_1-q_2,2q_1+q_2),\ (0,-q_1,q_1),$ |
| | $(q_1,0,-q_1),\ (q_1,q_2,-q_1-q_2),\ (0,-q_1-q_2,q_1+q_2).$ |
| $8_5$ | $\sqcup_3(0,0,0),\ \sqcup_3(2q_1,-2q_1,0),\ \sqcup_3(0,2q_1,-2q_1).$ |
| $8_{10}$ | $\sqcup_3(0,0,0),\ \sqcup_2(-q_1,0,q_1),\ (0,q_1,-q_1),\ (q_1,-q_1,0),$ |
| | $(-2q_1,2q_1,0),\ (0,-2q_1,2q_1).$ |
| $8_{11}$ | $\sqcup_3(0,0,0),\ (0,-q_2,q_2),\ (0,q_2,-q_2),\ (q_1,-2q_1,q_1),\ (q_1,q_1,-2q_1),$ |
| | $(-q_1,q_1-q_2,q_2),\ (2q_1,q_2,-2q_1-q_2).$ |
| $8_{15}$ | $\sqcup_3(0,0,0),\ \sqcup_2(q_1,0,-q_1),\ \sqcup_2(-q_1,q_1,0),\ \sqcup_2(0,-q_1,q_1).$ |
| $8_{18}$ | $\sqcup_{10}(0,0,0),\ \sqcup_3(0,-q_1-q_2,q_1+q_2),\ \sqcup_2(q_1,0,-q_1),\ \sqcup_2(0,-q_1,q_1),$ |
| | $(-q_1,2q_1,-q_1),\ \sqcup_2(q_1,q_1+q_2,-2q_1-q_2),\ \sqcup_2(0,-2q_1-q_2,2q_1+q_2),$ |
| | $\sqcup_2(q_1,q_2,-q_1-q_2),\ (q_1,-q_1+q_2,-q_2),\ (2q_1,-q_1+q_2,-q_1-q_2),$ |
| | $(q_1,q_1-q_2,-2q_1+q_2).$ |
| $8_{19}$ | $\sqcup_5(0,0,0),(-q_1,2q_1,-q_1),\ (2q_1,-q_1,-q_1),(q_1,-2q_1,q_1),(q_1,q_1,-2q_1).$ |
| $8_{20}$ | $\sqcup_9(0,0,0).$ |
| $8_{21}$ | $\sqcup_5(0,0,0)\ (q_1,q_1,-2q_1),\ (2q_1,-q_1,-q_1),\ (-q_1,2q_1,-q_1),\ (q_1,-2q_1,q_1).$ |

The 2-twist spins of 24 of these 3-colorable knots can be distinguished from their inverses by the invariant of [10]. Their $6k$-twist spins, however, as well as the $2k$-twist spins of the following list and their stabilizations, can be distinguished from their inverses only by the current invariant: $6_1, 8_{10}, 8_{11}, 8_{18}, 9_1, 9_6, 9_{23}, 9_{24}, 9_{37}, 9_{46}$.

Furthermore, the original invariant for $R_3$ with trivial action has non-trivial cohomology only with $\mathbb{Z}_3$, so that the invariant is trivial for $6k$-twist spuns, and in particular, unable to detect non-invertibility in this case. The current invariant with non-trivial action, having a free abelian coefficient group $\mathbb{Z}^3$, is non-trivial for any $2k$-twist spuns, if the invariant is non-trivial for the 2-twist spun.

Table 6. A table of cocycle invariants with orientation reversed, part II

| Knot $K$ | $\Phi_\kappa(\mathrm{Tw}^2(K))$ |
|---|---|
| $9_1$ | $\sqcup_3(0,0,0)$, $\sqcup_2(3q_1,0,-3q_1)$, $\sqcup_2(-3q_1,3q_1,0)$, $\sqcup_2(0,-3q_1,3q_1)$. |
| $9_2$ | $\sqcup_3(0,0,0)$, $(-q_2,0,q_2)$, $(q_1,0,-q_1)$, $(2q_1,-2q_1,0)$, $(q_2,-q_1-q_2,q_1)$, |
| | $(-q_1-q_2,q_1+q_2,0)$, $(q_1+q_2,2q_1,-3q_1-q_2)$. |
| $9_4$ | $\sqcup_3(0,0,0)$, $(0,-2q_1,2q_1)$, $(0,q_1,-q_1)$, |
| | $(-2q_1,q_1-q_2,q_1+q_2)$, $(q_1,q_2,-q_1-q_2)$, $(-q_1,-q_2,q_1+q_2)$, $(-q_1,q_2,q_1-q_2)$. |
| $9_6$ | $\sqcup_3(0,0,0)$, $(0,-3q_1,3q_1)$, $(3q_1,0,-3q_1)$, $(q_1,2q_1+q_2,-3q_1-q_2)$, |
| | $(q_1,-3q_1-q_2,2q_1+q_2)$, $(2q_1,-q_1+q_2,-q_1-q_2)$, $(-q_1,-q_1-q_2,2q_1+q_2)$. |
| $9_{10}$ | $\sqcup_3(0,0,0)$, $(2q_1,q_2,-q_2-2q_1)$, $(-q_1,-q_2+q_1,q_2)$, |
| | $(q_1,q_1,-2q_1)$, $(q_1,-2q_1,q_1)$, $(0,q_2,-q_2)$, $(0,-q_2,q_2)$. |
| $9_{11}$ | $\sqcup_3(0,0,0)$, $\sqcup_3(q_1,-q_1,0)$, $\sqcup_3(0,q_1,-q_1)$. |
| $9_{15}$ | $\sqcup_3(0,0,0)$, $\sqcup_2(0,q_1,-q_1)$, $\sqcup_2(2q_1,0,-2q_1)$, $\sqcup_2(q_1,-q_1,0)$. |
| $9_{16}$ | $\sqcup_3(0,0,0)$, $\sqcup_2(q_1,0,-q_1)$, $\sqcup_2(-q_1,q_1,0)$, $\sqcup_2(0,-q_1,q_1)$. |
| $9_{17}$ | $\sqcup_9(0,0,0)$. |
| $9_{23}$ | $\sqcup_5(0,0,0)$, $(q_1,q_1,-2q_1)$, $(2q_1,-q_1,-q_1)$, $(q_1,-2q_1,q_1)$, $(-q_1,2q_1,-q_1)$. |
| $9_{24}$ | $\sqcup_3(0,0,0)$, $\sqcup_2(-q_1,0,q_1)$, $(q_1,-q_1,0)$, $(0,q_1,-q_1)$, $(0,-2q_1,2q_1)$, $(-2q_1,2q_1,0)$. |
| $9_{28}$ | $\sqcup_6(0,0,0)$, $(-q_1,2q_1,-q_1)$, $(2q_1,-q_1,-q_1)$, $(-q_1,-q_1,2q_1)$. |
| $9_{29}$ | $\sqcup_3(0,0,0)$, $(0,q_1,-q_1)$, $(0,-q_2,q_2)$, $(q_1,-q_1,0)$, |
| | $(q_1,q_2,-q_2-q_1)$, $(q_1,q_2-q_1,-q_2)$, $(0,-q_2+q_1,q_2-q_1)$. |
| $9_{34}$ | $\sqcup_9(0,0,0)$. |
| $9_{35}$ | $\sqcup_4(0,0,0)$, $\sqcup_3(0,-q_1,q_1)$, $\sqcup_3(-q_1,q_1,0)$, $\sqcup_3(0,2q_1,-2q_1)$, $\sqcup_3(2q_1,-2q_1,0)$, |
| | $(q_1,q_1,-2q_1)$, $(q_1,-2q_1,q_1)$, $(2q_1,-q_1,-q_1)$, $(-q_2,-q_1,q_1+q_2)$, |
| | $(q_1,2q_2,-q_1-2q_2)$, $(q_1-q_2,-q_1+q_2,0)$, $(q_1+q_2,-q_1-q_2,0)$, |
| | $(q_1+q_2,q_1+q_2,-2q_1-2q_2)$, $(q_1,-2q_1-2q_2,q_1+2q_2)$, $(2q_1+q_2,-q_1,-q_1-q_2)$, |
| | $(-q_1+q_2,2q_1-2q_2,-q_1+q_2)$. |
| $9_{37}$ | $\sqcup_3(0,0,0)$, $\sqcup_2(0,q_1,-q_1)$, $\sqcup_2(q_1,-q_1,0)$, $\sqcup_2(0,-q_2,q_2)$, $\sqcup_3(0,-q_2+q_1,-q_1+q_2)$, |
| | $\sqcup_2(q_1,q_2,-q_1-q_2)$, $\sqcup_2(q_1,-q_1+q_2,-q_2)$, |
| | $(0,-q_1,q_1)$, $(-q_1,q_1,0)$, $(0,q_2,-q_2)$, $(0,2q_2,-2q_2)$, $(0,-q_1+q_2,-q_2+q_1)$, |
| | $(q_1,-q_2,-q_1+q_2)$, $(2q_1+q_2,0,-2q_1-q_2)$, $(-q_1-q_2,-q_1,2q_1+q_2)$, |
| | $(-q_1,-2q_2,q_1+2q_2)$, $(-q_1-q_2,q_1+q_2,0)$, $(q_1+q_2,-q_2,-q_1)$. |
| $9_{38}$ | $\sqcup_4(0,0,0)$, $(0,q_1+q_2,-q_1-q_2)$, $(q_1,-q_2,-q_1+q_2)$, $(2q_1,-q_1,-q_1)$, |
| | $(q_1,-2q_1+q_2,q_1-q_2)$, $(-q_1,2q_1-q_2,-q_1+q_2)$. |
| $9_{40}$ | $\sqcup_6(0,0,0)$, $(-q_1,2q_1,-q_1)$, $(2q_1,-q_1,-q_1)$, $(-q_1,-q_1,2q_1)$. |
| $9_{46}$ | $\sqcup_{15}(0,0,0)$, $\sqcup_2(q_1,-q_1,0)$, $\sqcup_2(0,q_1,-q_1)$, $\sqcup_2(-q_1,0,q_1)$, $(0,-q_1,q_1)$, $(-q_1,q_1,0)$, |
| | $(0,q_2,-q_2)$, $(-q_1,-q_2,q_1+q_2)$, $(-q_1,q_1-q_2,q_2)$, $(0,-q_1+q_2,q_1-q_2)$. |
| $9_{47}$ | $\sqcup_{11}(0,0,0)$, $\sqcup_3(0,-q_2,q_2)$, $\sqcup_2(0,q_1,-q_1)$, $\sqcup_2(q_1,-q_1,0)$, $\sqcup_2(0,q_1-q_2,-q_1+q_2)$, |
| | $(0,q_2,-q_2)$, $\sqcup_2(q_1,q_2,-q_1-q_2)$, $\sqcup_2(q_1,-q_1+q_2,-q_2)$, $(0,q_1+q_2,-q_1-q_2)$, |
| | $(0,-q_1-q_2,q_1+q_2)$. |
| $9_{48}$ | $\sqcup_3(0,0,0)$, $\sqcup_6(0,-q_1,q_1)$, $\sqcup_4(q_1,0,-q_1)$, $\sqcup_4(-q_1,q_1,0)$, |
| | $(0,q_1,-q_1)$, $(q_1,-q_1,0)$, $(0,q_2,-q_2)$, $(0,-q_2,q_2)$, |
| | $(q_1,q_2,-q_1-q_2)$, $(q_1,-q_1-q_2,q_2)$, $(q_1,-q_1+q_2,-q_2)$, |
| | $(0,2q_1-q_2,-2q_1+q_2)$, $(2q_1,-2q_1+q_2,-q_2)$, $(0,q_1-q_2,-q_1+q_2)$. |

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