

GSV trick for Whitehead link (VERSIONS 1 and 2)

We want to see whether we can use [GSV, eq. (5.5)] to compute unreduced KR homology for the two-component Whitehead link, aka L5a1. Its linking number is 0, and our results for its n=2 and n=3 KR invariants are as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{lk} &= 0; \text{KR2} = \text{Expand}[(q^{12} + 2q^8 t^2 + q^8 t + q^6 t^3 + 2q^6 t^2 + q^4 t^4 + q^2 t^4 + t^5) / (q^8 t^2)]; \\ \text{KR3} &= \text{Expand}[(q^{18} + q^{16} + q^{14} t^2 + 3q^{12} t^2 + q^{12} t + q^{10} t^3 + 3q^{10} t^2 + q^{10} t + q^8 t^4 + q^8 t^3 + 2q^8 t^2 + q^6 t^4 + q^4 t^4 + q^2 t^5 + q^2 t^4 + t^5) / (q^{12} t^2)] \\ &+ \frac{2}{q^4} + \frac{3}{q^2} + q^2 + \frac{q^4}{t^2} + \frac{q^6}{t^2} + \frac{1}{t} + \frac{1}{q^2 t} + \frac{t}{q^4} + \frac{t}{q^2} + \frac{t^2}{q^{10}} + \frac{t^2}{q^8} + \frac{t^2}{q^6} + \frac{t^2}{q^4} + \frac{t^3}{q^{12}} + \frac{t^3}{q^{10}} \end{aligned}$$

Thus the "universal" terms $U_i := \sum_{Q,s,r \in \mathbb{Z}} D_{Q,s,r} q^{iQ+s} t^r$ for $i=2,3$ on the right-hand side of [GSV, eq. (5.5)] are given by (where we leave the parameter $a=\alpha$ undetermined for now):

$$\begin{aligned} U2 &= \text{Expand}[(q-1/q)(q^4 \text{lk} \text{KR2} - t^a (q+1/q)^2)] \\ &= -\frac{2}{q^3} + 2q - \frac{q^3}{t^2} + \frac{q^5}{t^2} - \frac{1}{qt} + \frac{q}{t} - \frac{t}{q^3} + \frac{t}{q} - \frac{t^2}{q^7} + \frac{t^2}{q^3} - \frac{t^3}{q^9} + \frac{t^3}{q^7} + \frac{t^a}{q^3} + \frac{t^a}{q} - qt^a - q^3 t^a \\ U3 &= \text{Expand}[\text{Simplify}[(q-1/q)(q^6 \text{lk} \text{KR3} - t^a ((q^3 - q^{-3})) / (q-1/q))^2]] \\ &= -\frac{2}{q^5} - \frac{1}{q^3} + 2q + q^3 - \frac{q^3}{t^2} + \frac{q^7}{t^2} - \frac{1}{q^3 t} + \frac{q}{t} - \frac{t}{q^5} + \frac{t}{q} - \frac{t^2}{q^{11}} + \frac{t^2}{q^3} - \frac{t^3}{q^{13}} + \frac{t^3}{q^9} + \frac{t^a}{q^5} + \frac{t^a}{q^3} + \frac{t^a}{q} - qt^a - q^3 t^a - q^5 t^a \end{aligned}$$

Now we can try to use [GSV, eq. (5.5)] to reproduce our n=3 KR invariant (note that the two components involved are just two unknots by themselves). It works:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{KR3} &= \text{Expand}[\text{Simplify}[q^{-6} \text{lk} (t^a \text{Simplify}[(q^3 - q^{-3}) / (q-1/q))^2 + U3 / (q-1/q)]]] \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Now try to determine the constants $D_{Q,s,r}$ from U2 and U3 above. If we set $a=\alpha=0$, then U2 and U3 have the same number of terms:

$$\begin{aligned} U2 /. \{a \rightarrow 0\} &= -\frac{1}{q^3} + \frac{1}{q} + q - q^3 - \frac{q^3}{t^2} + \frac{q^5}{t^2} - \frac{1}{qt} + \frac{q}{t} - \frac{t}{q^3} + \frac{t}{q} - \frac{t^2}{q^7} + \frac{t^2}{q^3} - \frac{t^3}{q^9} + \frac{t^3}{q^7} \\ U3 /. \{a \rightarrow 0\} &= -\frac{1}{q^5} + \frac{1}{q} + q - q^5 - \frac{q^3}{t^2} + \frac{q^7}{t^2} - \frac{1}{q^3 t} + \frac{q}{t} - \frac{t}{q^5} + \frac{t}{q} - \frac{t^2}{q^{11}} + \frac{t^2}{q^3} - \frac{t^3}{q^{13}} + \frac{t^3}{q^9} \end{aligned}$$

From this we can read off the constants $D_{Q,s,r}$:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{UU}[n] &:= -q^{(-2n+1)} + q^{(0n-1)} + q - q^{(2n-1)} - q^{(0n+3)} t^{(-2)} + q^{(2n+1)} t^{(-2)} - q^{(-2n+3)} t^{(-1)} + q^{(1)} t^{(-1)} - q^{(-2n+1)} t + q^{(-1)} t - q^{(-4n+1)} t^2 + q^{(-3)} t^2 - q^{(-4n-1)} t^3 + q^{(-2n-3)} t^3; \text{UU}[n] \\ &= \frac{1}{q} + q - q^{1-2n} - q^{-1+2n} - \frac{q^3}{t^2} + \frac{q^{1+2n}}{t^2} + \frac{q}{t} - \frac{q^{3-2n}}{t} + \frac{t}{q} - q^{1-2n} t + \frac{t^2}{q^3} - q^{1-4n} t^2 - q^{-1-4n} t^3 + q^{-3-2n} t^3 \end{aligned}$$

Now we use [GSV, eq. (5.5)] with $a=\alpha=0$ to define a candidate for the KR invariants for arbitrary n:

$$\text{KR}[n] := \text{Expand}[\text{FullSimplify}[\text{Expand}[\text{Simplify}[q^{(-2n) \text{lk}} (t^a \text{Simplify}[(q^n - q^{(-n)}) / (q-1/q))^2 + \text{UU}[n] / (q-1/q)]] /. \{a \rightarrow 0\}]]]$$

Check that we have not made a mistake so far:

$$\{\mathbf{KR}[2] - \mathbf{KR}2, \mathbf{KR}[3] - \mathbf{KR}3\}$$

$$\{0, 0\}$$

Our result for the n=4 invariant is:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{KR}4 = & \text{Expand}[(q^{24} + q^{22} + q^{20} t^2 + q^{20} + 2 q^{18} t^2 + 4 q^{16} t^2 + \\ & q^{16} t + q^{14} t^3 + 4 q^{14} t^2 + q^{14} t + q^{12} t^4 + q^{12} t^3 + \\ & 3 q^{12} t^2 + q^{12} t + q^{10} t^4 + q^{10} t^3 + 2 q^{10} t^2 + q^8 t^4 + \\ & q^6 t^4 + q^4 t^5 + q^4 t^4 + q^2 t^5 + q^2 t^4 + t^5) / (q^{16} t^2)]; \end{aligned}$$

They agree with the GSV prediction:

$$\mathbf{KR}[4] - \mathbf{KR}4$$

$$0$$

The general expression for the GSV prediction is:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{FullSimplify}[\\ & (q^{(-2n)k}) (t^a \text{Simplify}[(q^n - q^{-n}) / (q - 1/q)^2] + \text{UU}[n] / (q - 1/q)) /. \{a \rightarrow 0\}] \\ & \frac{q^{-2-4n} \left(q^{4+2n} (-1 + q^{2n})^2 + \frac{(-1+q^2) (-q^2+q^{2n}) (q^{2+4n} (q-t) (q+t) + t^4 (q^2+t) + q^{2n} t (q^2+t) (q^2+t^2))}{t^2} \right)}{(-1 + q^2)^2} \end{aligned}$$