

<<纽结和物理学>>

图书基本信息

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## 内容概要

This book has its origins in two short courses given by the author in Bologna and Torino, Italy during the Fall of 1985. At that time, connections between statistical physics and the Jones polynomial were just beginning to appear, and it seemed to be a good idea to write a book of lecture notes entitled Knots and Physics. The subject of knot polynomials was opening up, with the Jones polynomial as the first link polynomial able to distinguish knots from their mirror images. We were looking at the tip of an iceberg,<sup>t</sup> The field has grown by leaps and bounds with remarkable contributions from mathematicians and physicists - a wonderful interdisciplinary interplay. In writing this book I wanted to preserve the flavor of those old Bologna/Torino notes, and I wanted to provide a pathway into the more recent events. After a good deal of exploration, I decided, in 1989, to design a book divided into two parts. The first part would be combinatorial, elementary, devoted to the bracket polynomial as state model, partition function, vacuum-vacuum amplitude, Yang-Baxter model. The bracket also provides an entry point into the subject of quantum groups, and it is the beginning of a significant generalization of the Penrose spin-networks (see Part II, section 13.) Part II is an exposition of a set of related topics, and provides room for recent developments. In its first incarnation, Part II held material on the Potts model and on spin-networks.

## 书籍目录

Table of Contents Preface to the First Edition Preface to the Second Edition Preface to the Third Edition Part  
 .A Short Course of Knots and Physics 1.Physical Knots 2.Diagrams and Moves 3.States and the Bracket  
 Polynomial 4.Alternating Links and Checkerboard Surfaces 5.The Jones Polynomial and its Generalizations  
 6.An Oriented State Model for  $V_k(t)$  7.Braids and the Jones Polynomial 8.Abstract Tensors and the Yang-Baxter  
 Equation 9.Formal Feynman Diagrams , Bracket as a Vacuum-Vacuum Expectation and the Quantum Group  
 $SL(2)_q$  10.The Form of the Universal R-matrix 11.Yang-Baxter Models for Specializations of the Homily  
 Polynomial 12.The Alexander Polynomial 13.Knot-Crystals - Classical Knot Theory in a Modern Guise 14.The  
 Kauffman Polynomial 15.Oriented Models and Piecewise Linear Models 16.Three Manifold Invariants from the  
 Jones Polynomial 17.Integral Heuristics and Witten's Invariants 18.Appendix - Solutions to the Yang-Baxter  
 Equation Part .Knots and Physics - Miscellany 1.Theory of Hitches 2.The Rubber Band and Twisted Tube  
 3.On a Crossing 4.Slide Equivalence 5.Unoriented Diagrams and Linking Numbers 6.The  
 Penrose Chromatic Recursion 7.The Chromatic Polynomial 8.The Potts Model and the  
 Dichromatic Polynomial 9.Preliminaries for Quantum Mechanics, Spin Networks and Angular Momentum  
 10.Quaternions, Cayley Numbers and the Belt Trick 11.The Quaternion Demonstrator 12.The Penrose Theory  
 of Spin Networks 13.Q-Spin Networks and the Magic Weave 14.Knots and Strings - Knotted Strings  
 15.DNA and Quantum Field Theory 16.Knots in Dynamical Systems - The Lorenz Attractor  
 Coda References Index Appendix Introduction Gauss Codes,  
 Quantum Groups and Ribbon Hopf Algebras Spin Networks, Topology and Discrete Physics Link Polynomials  
 and a Graphical Calculus with P.Vogel Knots, Tangles, and Electrical Networks with J.R.Goldman Knot  
 Theory and Functional Integration

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