

962-57-913

**Jerome P Levine\*** (levine@brandeis.edu), Mathematics Department, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA 02454, and **Stavros Garoufalidis** (stavros@math.gatech.edu), Mathematics Department, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA 30332. *Analytic invariants of boundary links*. Preliminary report.

Let  $\Lambda = \mathbf{Q}[[x_1, \dots, x_m]]$  be the ring of non-commuting power series with rational coefficients. In 1992 M. Farber defined an invariant  $\chi(A) \in \Lambda$  for certain  $\Lambda$ -modules  $A$  which arise as the homology of the free cover of the complement of a boundary link. This is a generalization of the Alexander polynomial of a knot. We interpret, simplify and generalize this invariant in terms of Seifert matrices, defining, for any  $f \in \mathbf{Q}[[z, x]]$ , an invariant  $\chi_f \in \Lambda$  of  $m$ -component boundary links. These invariants include Farber's, corresponding to a particular  $f$ , but the class of these invariants is stronger. For certain  $f$ ,  $\chi_f$  is related to the Kontsevich integral of a boundary link, generalizing the Melvin-Morton-Rozansky theorem which relates the Alexander polynomial of a knot to the colored Jones polynomial. (Received September 28, 2000)