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**Jason F McGibbon\*** ([mcgibbon@math.umass.edu](mailto:mcgibbon@math.umass.edu)). *Combinatorial knot contact homology and 1-parameter families of knots.*

Knot contact homology is a combinatorial invariant of smooth knots in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  arising from symplectic field theory. This invariant admits an action of the fundamental group of the space of knots, of which nontrivial examples are known. I will also discuss work towards a topological interpretation of the invariant. (Received June 26, 2011)