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Neal W Stoltzfus* (stoltz@lsu.edu), Dept Maths, LSU, Baton Rouge, LA 70803. *Ribbon Graph Constructions with Applications to Link Invariants*. Preliminary report.

Constructions in the theory of link diagrams: tangle insertions, mutations, parallels, can be studied from the perspective of Jones-Singerman operations on ribbon graphs. Associated formulae for the rank polynomials are developed & the corresponding properties given for link invariants. (Received August 26, 2013)