

Meeting: 1002, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, SS 1A, Special Session on Invariants of Knots and 3-Manifolds

1002-16-226 **Craig Jackson** and **Thomas Kerler*** (kerler.2@osu.edu). *String Link Invariants via Representation Theory*. Preliminary report.

Guided by a probabilistic interpretation by Vaughan Jones, Lin, Tian and Wang generalized the Burau Representation of the braid groups to a (rational) invariant of string links. We will give an elementary and easily computable interpretation of this invariant as a fraction of two basic (polynomial) representations of the string link monoid. This work is part of the Masters thesis of CJ. (Received September 14, 2004)