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Helen M Wong* (hwong@carleton.edu), 1 N College St, Northfield, MN 55057, and **Francis Bonahon**. *Representations of the Kauffman bracket skein algebra*. Preliminary report.

The Kauffman bracket skein algebra of a surface was originally defined as a generalization of the Jones polynomial, but it was later realized to have connections with hyperbolic geometry. We discuss recent results concerning representations of the Kauffman bracket skein algebra of a surface and their relationship with hyperbolic geometry, particularly the SL_2 -character variety of the fundamental group. (Received August 29, 2016)