Finite type invariants for a spatial handcuff graph

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Abstract. We first explain a finite type invariant, or Vassliev invariant, for a knot. Then we consider a finite type invariant for an embedded handcuff graph in a 3-sphere: We express a basis for the vector space of finite type invariants of order less than or equal to three for a spatial handcuff graph in terms of the linking number, the Conway polynomial, and the Jones polynomial of the sublinks of the handcuff graph.