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Patrick Y Chu* (pyc3@rice.edu) and **Alex D Chichester**. *The Kauffman bracket for Singular Links*. Preliminary report.

The Kauffman bracket is a polynomial invariant for knots and links, giving a simplified method for computing the Jones polynomial. A singular link with n components is an immersion of n circles in three-dimensional space, which admits only finitely many singularities that are all transverse double points. In this talk we extend the Kauffman bracket to singular links by imposing an additional skein relation involving a singular point in a link diagram. We then examine the implications of our approach on extending the Yang-Baxter state model for the Kauffman bracket to singular links.

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