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Invariants*. Preliminary report.

In 2011 Turaev introduced the monoid of Knotoids \mathcal{K} . Given a ribbon Hopf algebra \mathcal{H} together with a ribbon automorphism ϕ on \mathcal{H} we construct a morphism of monoids $\mathcal{K} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$. In the case of a trivial automorphisms the construction specializes to known knot invariants that associate to a knot an element in the center of \mathcal{H} . Moreover, when specialized to the fundamental representation of the quantum group $U_q(\mathfrak{sl}_2)$ our invariant is related to Turaev's knotoid bracket polynomial that contains an additional parameter which, in our picture, corresponds to a one-parameter family of ribbon automorphisms. The method readily implies colored versions of Tuarev's invariant as well as multi-parameter generalizations to higher rank quantum groups. (Received January 20, 2015)