

Generalized Hecke Relations

Justin Kaidi

Kavli IPMU

August 28, 2026



Modular forms and Hecke operators

- Consider a weight- k (weakly) holomorphic modular form $f(\tau) \in \mathcal{M}_k(\Gamma)$,

$$f(\gamma\tau) = (c\tau + d)^k f(\tau) , \quad \forall \gamma \in \Gamma .$$

- A natural set of mutually commuting linear operators acting on $\mathcal{M}_k(\Gamma)$ are the Hecke operators T_n ,

$$(T_n f)(\tau) := n^{k-1} \sum_{\substack{ad=n \\ a,d>0}} d^{-k} \sum_{b=0}^{d-1} f\left(\frac{a\tau + b}{d}\right) .$$

- For $n = p$ prime, we have

$$(T_p f)(\tau) = p^{k-1} \left[f(p\tau) + p^{-k} \sum_{b=0}^{p-1} f\left(\frac{\tau + b}{p}\right) \right] .$$

Physics of Hecke Operators

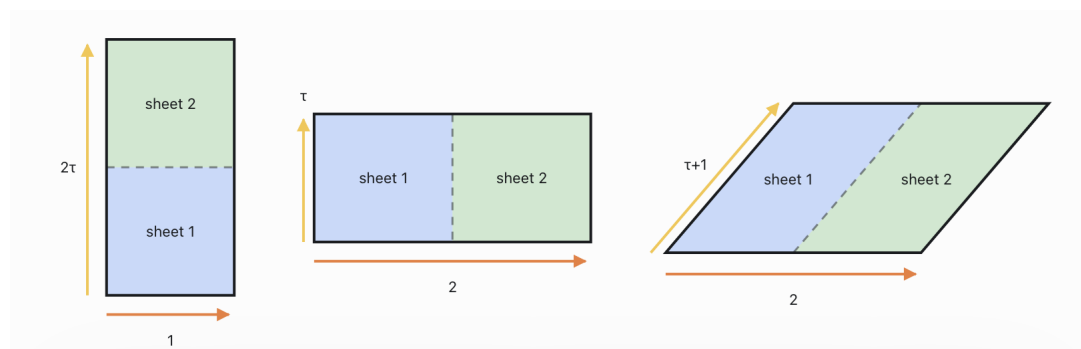
- Say that $f(\tau) = Z_A(\tau)$ is the partition function/elliptic genus for a theory A . One way to understand $(T_p f)(\tau)$ is to consider the product $A^{\otimes p}$ and define the cyclic permutation $s : (1\ 2\ \dots\ p) \mapsto (p\ 1\ \dots\ p-1)$.
- Note that

$$(Z_{A^{\otimes p}})_0^s = \text{Tr}_{\mathcal{H}^{\otimes p}} \left[\hat{s} q^{\sum_a L_0^{(a)} - \frac{pc}{24}} \right] = \sum_n q^{p(h_n - \frac{c}{24})} = Z_A(p\tau) .$$

Modular transformations then give

$$(Z_{A^{\otimes p}})_0^0 = Z_A(\tau/p) , \quad (Z_{A^{\otimes p}})_s^s = Z_A((\tau+1)/p) , \quad \dots$$

- Each of these describes the original theory on a degree- p covering torus,



Physics of Hecke Operators

- For $p = 2$, we have

$$(\mathsf{T}_2 Z_A)(\tau) = \frac{1}{2} \left[(Z_{A^{\otimes 2}})_0^s(\tau) + (Z_{A^{\otimes 2}})_s^0(\tau) + (Z_{A^{\otimes 2}})_s^s(\tau) \right]$$

and hence

$$Z_{A^{\otimes 2}/S_2}(\tau) = \frac{1}{2} (Z_A(\tau))^2 + (\mathsf{T}_2 Z_A)(\tau) .$$

- Similarly, for $p = 3$ we have

$$Z_{A^{\otimes 3}/S_3}(\tau) = \frac{1}{6} (Z_A(\tau))^3 + Z_A(\tau) (\mathsf{T}_2 Z_A)(\tau) + (\mathsf{T}_3 Z_A)(\tau) .$$

- In general, symmetric product orbifolds are given by the DMVV formula

[Dijkgraaf-Moore-Verlinde-Verlinde '97]

$$\sum_{n \geq 0} p^n Z_{A^{\otimes n}/S_n} = \exp \left(\sum_{n \geq 1} p^n \mathsf{T}_n Z_A \right) .$$

Mathematics of Hecke Operators

- Let us note two useful properties of Hecke operators:

i) They are particular examples of double coset operators. Indeed, define $g_p := \text{diag}(p, 1)$. Note that

$$\Gamma g_p \Gamma = \bigsqcup_i \Gamma g_p r_i = \Gamma \begin{pmatrix} p & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \sqcup \bigsqcup_{b=0}^{p-1} \Gamma \begin{pmatrix} 1 & b \\ 0 & p \end{pmatrix}$$

Then we have

$$(\mathsf{T}_p f)(\tau) = p^{k-1} \sum_i f(\tau|_{g_p r_i})$$

ii) Hecke operators form an algebra,

$$\mathsf{T}_n \mathsf{T}_m = \sum_{d|\gcd(n,m)} d^{k-1} \mathsf{T}_{mn/d^2}$$

Harvey-Wu operators

- Next, consider a vector-valued modular function (vvmf), such as a character vector,

$$\chi(\gamma\tau) = \rho(\gamma)\chi(\tau) , \quad \gamma \in SL(2, \mathbb{Z}) , \quad \rho : SL(2, \mathbb{Z}) \longrightarrow GL(d) .$$

- Harvey-Wu introduced a useful extension of the Hecke operators to operators acting on vvmfs [Harvey-Wu '18]. Writing N for the conductor (order of T -matrix), for any p coprime to N we have,

$$(\mathsf{T}_p^{\text{HW}} \chi)(\tau) := G_p \chi(p\tau) + \sum_{b=0}^{p-1} \chi\left(\frac{\tau + bN}{p}\right) .$$

where we have defined

$$G_p := \rho(\sigma_p) , \quad \sigma_p \equiv \begin{pmatrix} \bar{p} & 0 \\ 0 & p \end{pmatrix} \pmod{N} , \quad p\bar{p} \equiv 1 \pmod{N} .$$

- The output is again a d -dimensional vector-valued modular function,

$$(\mathsf{T}_p^{\text{HW}} \chi)(\gamma\tau) = \rho^{(p)}(\gamma)(\mathsf{T}_p^{\text{HW}} \chi)(\tau) ,$$

where $\rho^{(p)}$ is a Galois conjugate of ρ .

Harvey-Wu operators

- As a simple example, consider the $SU(2)_1$ characters

$$\begin{aligned}\chi_1^{A_1}(\tau) &= q^{-1/24} (1 + 3q + 4q^2 + \cdots) , \\ \chi_2^{A_1}(\tau) &= q^{5/24} (2 + 2q + 6q^2 + \cdots) .\end{aligned}$$

- The modular representation is

$$\rho_{A_1}(S) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} , \quad \rho_{A_1}(T) = \begin{pmatrix} e^{-\pi i/12} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{5\pi i/12} \end{pmatrix} , \quad N_{A_1} = 24 .$$

- Consider the action of T_7^{HW} ,

$$\begin{aligned}(\mathsf{T}_7^{\text{HW}} \chi^{A_1})(\tau) &= \chi^{A_1}(7\tau) + \sum_{b=0}^6 \chi^{A_1}\left(\frac{\tau + 24b}{7}\right) \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} q^{-7/24} (1 + 133q + 1673q^2 + \cdots) \\ q^{11/24} (56 + 968q + 7504q^2 + \cdots) \end{pmatrix} .\end{aligned}$$

- These are precisely the characters of $(E_7)_1$. The modular data is obtained by applying the Galois automorphism $\zeta_{24} \mapsto \zeta_{24}^7$.

Harvey-Wu operators

- Other examples include

$$\mathsf{T}_7^{\text{HW}} \chi^{\text{LY}} = \chi^{G_{2,1}} , \quad \mathsf{T}_{13}^{\text{HW}} \chi^{\text{LY}} = \chi^{F_{4,1}} ,$$

$$\mathsf{T}_{31}^{\text{HW}} \chi^{\text{Ising}} = \chi^{(\text{E}_8)_2} ,$$

$$\mathsf{T}_{47}^{\text{HW}} \chi^{\text{Ising}} = \chi^{\text{Baby Monster}} ,$$

$$\mathsf{T}_p^{\text{HW}} \chi^{\text{Ising}} = \chi^{\text{Spin}(p)_1} , \quad p = 5, 7, 11, 13, 17, 19, 23 .$$

Rephrasing Harvey-Wu

- For fixed p , first form the extended character vector

$$\widehat{\chi}_p(\tau) := \begin{pmatrix} \chi(p\tau) \\ \chi(\tau/p) \\ \chi((\tau + N)/p) \\ \vdots \\ \chi((\tau + (p-1)N)/p) \end{pmatrix} .$$

- The Harvey-Wu operator is the rectangular projection

$$\mathsf{T}_p^{\text{HW}} \chi = P_{\text{HW}} \widehat{\chi}_p , \quad P_{\text{HW}} = (G_p \mid 1 \mid \cdots \mid 1) .$$

- The extended character vector has its own $(p+1)d$ -dimensional modular action,

$$\widehat{\chi}_p(\gamma\tau) = \widehat{\rho}_p(\gamma) \widehat{\chi}_p(\tau) .$$

and the projection intertwines this representation with the Galois-conjugate representation,

$$P_{\text{HW}} \widehat{\rho}_p(\gamma) = \rho^{(p)}(\gamma) P_{\text{HW}} .$$

Extending Harvey-Wu

- This suggests a straightforward extension of the Harvey-Wu construction:
 - Construct the extended character vector $\widehat{\chi}_p$ and determine its modular representation $\widehat{\rho}_p$.
 - Decompose $\widehat{\rho}_p$ into irreducible representations, and check whether any of them gives a legitimate RCFT character.
- This gives a large class of generalized Hecke relations (see also [Duan-Lee-Sun '22; Bouchard-Creutzig-Joshi '18]).

Extending Harvey-Wu: Example 1

- Consider the characters of $SU(3)_1$,

$$\begin{aligned}\chi_1^{A_2}(\tau) &= q^{-1/12} (1 + 8q + 17q^2 + \dots) , \\ \chi_{\mathbf{3}}^{A_2}(\tau) = \chi_{\bar{\mathbf{3}}}^{A_2}(\tau) &= q^{1/4} (3 + 9q + 27q^2 + \dots) .\end{aligned}$$

- After identifying the two equal characters, the modular representation is

$$\rho_{A_2}(S) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} , \quad \rho_{A_2}(T) = \begin{pmatrix} e^{-\pi i/6} & 0 \\ 0 & i \end{pmatrix} , \quad N_{A_2} = 12 .$$

- For $p = 3$, construct

$$\widehat{\chi}_{A_2,3}(\tau) = \begin{pmatrix} \chi_{A_2}(3\tau) \\ \chi_{A_2}(\tau/3) \\ \chi_{A_2}((\tau+1)/3) \\ \chi_{A_2}((\tau+2)/3) \end{pmatrix}$$

and determine $\widehat{\rho}_{A_2,3}$.

Extending Harvey-Wu: Example 1

- Under $T : \tau \mapsto \tau + 1$, the four blocks transform as

$$\begin{aligned}\chi_{A_2}(3\tau) &\mapsto \rho_{A_2}(T)^3 \chi_{A_2}(3\tau) , \\ \chi_{A_2}(\tau/3) &\mapsto \chi_{A_2}((\tau + 1)/3) , \\ \chi_{A_2}((\tau + 1)/3) &\mapsto \chi_{A_2}((\tau + 2)/3) , \\ \chi_{A_2}((\tau + 2)/3) &\mapsto \rho_{A_2}(T) \chi_{A_2}(\tau/3) .\end{aligned}$$

- Hence

$$\widehat{\rho}_{A_2,3}(T) = \begin{pmatrix} \rho_{A_2}(T)^3 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \mathbf{1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \mathbf{1} \\ 0 & \rho_{A_2}(T) & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} ,$$

and similarly for $\widehat{\rho}_{A_2,3}(S)$.

- This is an eight-dimensional representation, which decomposes as

$$8 = 2 + 2 + 4 .$$

Extending Harvey-Wu: Example 1

- Choose one of the two-dimensional pieces via

$$P = \left(\begin{array}{cc|cc|cc} 1 & -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & i & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & e^{-5\pi i/6} & 0 & e^{\pi i/3} \end{array} \right).$$

- Acting with this gives

$$\begin{aligned} P\widehat{\chi}_{A_2,3} &= \begin{pmatrix} \chi_1^{A_2}(3\tau) - \chi_3^{A_2}(3\tau) + \chi_3^{A_2}(\tau/3) + i\chi_3^{A_2}((\tau+1)/3) - \chi_3^{A_2}((\tau+2)/3) \\ \chi_3^{A_2}(\tau/3) + e^{-5\pi i/6}\chi_3^{A_2}((\tau+1)/3) + e^{\pi i/3}\chi_3^{A_2}((\tau+2)/3) \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} q^{-1/4}(1 + 78q + 729q^2 + 4382q^3 + \dots) \\ q^{5/12}(27 + 378q + 2484q^2 + 12312q^3 + \dots) \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

This is the character vector of $(E_6)_1$. So we get a Hecke-like relationship, even when we cannot use the results of Harvey-Wu.

Extending Harvey-Wu: Example 2

- As another example, consider $\text{Spin}(8)_1$, with $N_{D_4} = 6$. For $p = 2$, form

$$\widehat{\chi}_{D_4,2}(\tau) = \begin{pmatrix} \chi_{D_4}(2\tau) \\ \chi_{D_4}(\tau/2) \\ \chi_{D_4}((\tau+1)/2) \end{pmatrix}.$$

- The extended modular representation is given by

$$\widehat{\rho}_{D_4,2}(T) = \begin{pmatrix} \rho_{D_4}(T)^2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & \rho_{D_4}(T) & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \widehat{\rho}_{D_4,2}(S) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \rho_{D_4}(S) & 0 \\ \rho_{D_4}(S) & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \rho_{D_4}\left(\frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 2 & -1 \end{pmatrix}\right) \end{pmatrix}.$$

- The six-dimensional representation decomposes as $6 = 1 + 2 + 3$. Projecting onto the one-dimensional piece gives

$$P\widehat{\chi}_{D_4,2} = \chi_0^{D_4}(2\tau) - \chi_v^{D_4}(2\tau) + 2\chi_v^{D_4}(\tau/2) + 2\omega\chi_v^{D_4}((\tau+1)/2) = \chi_0^{E_8}(\tau).$$

- Many other examples, e.g.

$$\mathcal{M}(5,6) \xrightarrow{p=2} \mathcal{M}(2,5) : \quad \begin{aligned} \chi_{1,1}^{(2,5)}(\tau) &= \chi_{1,2}^{(5,6)}(2\tau) + \chi_{1,4}^{(5,6)}(2\tau) \\ \chi_{1,2}^{(2,5)}(\tau) &= \chi_{2,2}^{(5,6)}(2\tau) + \chi_{2,4}^{(5,6)}(2\tau) \end{aligned}$$

Zhou-Zhu operators

- Consider a scalar modular function with multiplier ε_A ,

$$f(\gamma\tau) = (c\tau + d)^k \varepsilon_A(\gamma) f(\tau) , \quad \gamma \in \Gamma .$$

- Fix some g . Suppose there is another multiplier ε_B satisfying

$$\varepsilon_A(g\lambda g^{-1}) = \varepsilon_B(\lambda) , \quad \lambda \in \Gamma \cap g^{-1}\Gamma g ,$$

and decompose the double coset as

$$\Gamma g \Gamma = \bigsqcup_i \Gamma g r_i .$$

- Zhou-Zhu define [Zhou-Zhu '23]

$$(\mathsf{T}_{[g]}^{\varepsilon_A \rightarrow \varepsilon_B} f)(\tau) = \sum_i \varepsilon_B(r_i)^{-1} f(gr_i\tau) .$$

It maps elements of $\mathcal{M}_k(\Gamma, \varepsilon_A)$ to elements of $\mathcal{M}_k(\Gamma, \varepsilon_B)$.

Zhou-Zhu operators for vvmfs

- We can easily generalize this to vvmfs. Let

$$\rho_A : \Gamma \longrightarrow GL(V_A) , \quad \rho_B : \Gamma \longrightarrow GL(V_B) ,$$

and introduce a map $Q : V_A \longrightarrow V_B$ such that

$$Q\rho_A(g\lambda g^{-1}) = \rho_B(\lambda)Q , \quad \lambda \in \Gamma \cap g^{-1}\Gamma g .$$

- The vector-valued Zhou-Zhu operator is

$$(\mathsf{T}_{[g],Q}^{\rho_A \rightarrow \rho_B} \mathbf{f})(\tau) = \sum_i \rho_B(r_i)^{-1} Q \mathbf{f}(gr_i\tau) .$$

It maps a vvmf with representation ρ_A to one with representation ρ_B .

Zhou-Zhu operators for vvmfs

- This can be written in a more streamlined way. Define

$$\widehat{\mathbf{f}}_{[g]}(\tau) := \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{f}(gr_1\tau) \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{f}(gr_m\tau) \end{pmatrix}, \quad P_{[g],Q} := (\rho_B(r_1)^{-1}Q \mid \cdots \mid \rho_B(r_m)^{-1}Q) .$$

Writing $\widehat{\rho}_{A,g}$ for the modular action on $\widehat{\mathbf{f}}_g$,

$$\mathsf{T}_{[g],Q}^{\rho_A \rightarrow \rho_B} \mathbf{f} = P_{[g],Q} \widehat{\mathbf{f}}_{[g]}, \quad P_{g,Q} \widehat{\rho}_{A,g}(\gamma) = \rho_B(\gamma) P_{g,Q} .$$

- For $\Gamma = SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$, one can reduce (up to scalar and double-coset equivalence) to $g = \text{diag}(n, 1)$. We can then check that this captures all of the relations introduced above.

Defect-decorated Zhou-Zhu operators

- We can generalize further. Introduce a second vvmf

$$\mathbb{F}(\gamma\tau) = \sigma(\gamma)\mathbb{F}(\tau) \ , \quad \sigma : \Gamma \longrightarrow GL(W) \ .$$

- Take a map $Q : W \otimes V_A \longrightarrow V_B$ satisfying

$$Q \left(\sigma(\lambda) \otimes \rho_A(g\lambda g^{-1}) \right) = \rho_B(\lambda)Q \ , \quad \lambda \in \Gamma \cap g^{-1}\Gamma g \ .$$

- Define

$$\widehat{\mathbf{f}}_{[g],\mathbb{F}}(\tau) \quad := \quad \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{F}(r_1\tau) \otimes \mathbf{f}(gr_1\tau) \\ \vdots \\ \mathbb{F}(r_m\tau) \otimes \mathbf{f}(gr_m\tau) \end{pmatrix} \ ,$$

$$P_{[g],Q} \quad := \quad \left(\rho_B(r_1)^{-1}Q \mid \cdots \mid \rho_B(r_m)^{-1}Q \right) \ .$$

- Then we have the more general operator

$$\mathsf{T}_{[g],\mathbb{F},Q}(\mathbf{f}) = P_{[g],Q} \widehat{\mathbf{f}}_{[g],\mathbb{F}} \ .$$

Defect-decorated Zhou-Zhu operators: Example

- As an example, one obtains the $\text{Spin}(18)_1$ characters from the characters of $(A_7)_1$ and the three $p = 2$ images of $(A_1)_1$:

$$\begin{aligned}\chi_1^{D_9}(\tau) &= \left(\chi_1^{A_7}(\tau) - \chi_{70}^{A_7}(\tau)\right) \chi_1^{A_1}(2\tau) \\ &\quad + \left(\chi_8^{A_7}(\tau) + \chi_{56}^{A_7}(\tau)\right) \chi_1^{A_1}(\tau/2) \\ &\quad - e^{\pi i/24} \left(\chi_8^{A_7}(\tau) - \chi_{56}^{A_7}(\tau)\right) \chi_1^{A_1}((\tau+1)/2) ,\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\chi_{18}^{D_9}(\tau) &= \left(\chi_1^{A_7}(\tau) - \chi_{70}^{A_7}(\tau)\right) \chi_2^{A_1}(2\tau) \\ &\quad + \left(\chi_8^{A_7}(\tau) + \chi_{56}^{A_7}(\tau)\right) \chi_1^{A_1}(\tau/2) \\ &\quad + e^{\pi i/24} \left(\chi_8^{A_7}(\tau) - \chi_{56}^{A_7}(\tau)\right) \chi_1^{A_1}((\tau+1)/2) ,\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\chi_{256}^{D_9}(\tau) &= \left(\chi_8^{A_7}(\tau) + \chi_{56}^{A_7}(\tau)\right) \chi_2^{A_1}(\tau/2) \\ &\quad + e^{19\pi i/24} \left(\chi_8^{A_7}(\tau) - \chi_{56}^{A_7}(\tau)\right) \chi_2^{A_1}((\tau+1)/2) .\end{aligned}$$

Algebra of Zhou-Zhu operators

- Thus far we took $\Gamma = SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$. Instead, consider $\Gamma = \Gamma(2)$ and introduce

$$T = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} : \tau \mapsto \tau + 1, \quad W = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 2 & 0 \end{pmatrix} : \tau \mapsto -\frac{1}{2\tau}.$$

- The double coset $\Gamma T \Gamma = \Gamma T$ defines a Zhou-Zhu operator,

$$\mathsf{T}_{[T]}^{\varepsilon_1 \rightarrow \varepsilon_1} f = f|_T.$$

- The other double coset decomposes as

$$\Gamma W \Gamma = \Gamma W \sqcup \Gamma T^{-1} W,$$

and defines

$$\mathsf{T}_{[W]}^{\varepsilon_1 \rightarrow \varepsilon_1} f = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (f|_W + f|_{T^{-1}W}).$$

Algebra of Zhou-Zhu operators

- Although $T \notin \Gamma$, we have $T^2 \in \Gamma$. Hence the double coset $\Gamma T \Gamma$ defines an order-two Zhou-Zhu operator,

$$\left(T_{[T]}^{\varepsilon_1 \rightarrow \varepsilon_1} \right)^2 = 1 .$$

- Similarly, we find the following,

$$\begin{aligned} T_{[T]}^{\varepsilon_1 \rightarrow \varepsilon_1} T_{[W]}^{\varepsilon_1 \rightarrow \varepsilon_1} &= T_{[W]}^{\varepsilon_1 \rightarrow \varepsilon_1} T_{[T]}^{\varepsilon_1 \rightarrow \varepsilon_1} = T_{[W]}^{\varepsilon_1 \rightarrow \varepsilon_1} , \\ T_{[W]}^{\varepsilon_1 \rightarrow \varepsilon_1} T_{[W]}^{\varepsilon_1 \rightarrow \varepsilon_1} &= 1 + T_{[T]}^{\varepsilon_1 \rightarrow \varepsilon_1} . \end{aligned}$$

Thus $\eta := T_{[T]}^{\varepsilon_1 \rightarrow \varepsilon_1}$ and $\mathcal{N} := T_{[W]}^{\varepsilon_1 \rightarrow \varepsilon_1}$ obey the Ising fusion algebra.

Algebra of Zhou-Zhu operators

- Now consider the non-trivial multiplier

$$\varepsilon_\eta(\gamma) = (-1)^{c/2} , \quad \gamma = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in \Gamma(2) .$$

- We may define $\mathsf{T}_{[g]}^{\varepsilon_A \rightarrow \varepsilon_B}$ whenever

$$\varepsilon_A(g\lambda g^{-1}) = \varepsilon_B(\lambda) , \quad \lambda \in \Gamma \cap g^{-1}\Gamma g .$$

- A simple computation shows that:
 - For $g = T$, the source and target multipliers must agree.
 - For $g = W$, all source-target combinations are allowed.
- Thus we have six operators:

$$\mathsf{T}_{[T]}^{\varepsilon_1 \rightarrow \varepsilon_1} , \mathsf{T}_{[T]}^{\varepsilon_\eta \rightarrow \varepsilon_\eta} , \mathsf{T}_{[W]}^{\varepsilon_1 \rightarrow \varepsilon_1} , \mathsf{T}_{[W]}^{\varepsilon_1 \rightarrow \varepsilon_\eta} , \mathsf{T}_{[W]}^{\varepsilon_\eta \rightarrow \varepsilon_1} , \mathsf{T}_{[W]}^{\varepsilon_\eta \rightarrow \varepsilon_\eta} .$$

Algebra of Zhou-Zhu operators

- With products read from right to left, one finds e.g.

$$\begin{aligned} T_{[T]}^{\varepsilon_{\eta} \rightarrow \varepsilon_{\eta}} T_{[W]}^{\varepsilon_1 \rightarrow \varepsilon_{\eta}} &= T_{[W]}^{\varepsilon_1 \rightarrow \varepsilon_{\eta}}, \\ T_{[W]}^{\varepsilon_1 \rightarrow \varepsilon_{\eta}} T_{[W]}^{\varepsilon_{\eta} \rightarrow \varepsilon_1} &= 1 + T_{[T]}^{\varepsilon_{\eta} \rightarrow \varepsilon_{\eta}}. \end{aligned}$$

- These are the 1 - and η -twisted portions of the Ising tube algebra. The $\mathcal{N}$ -twisted portions are similarly obtained by using two-dimensional vvmfs. The choice of Q corresponds to the choice of junction.

$$T_{g,Q}^{\rho_A \rightarrow \rho_B} : \quad \begin{array}{c} \rho_B \\ | \\ Q \\ | \\ \rho_A \end{array} \quad \Gamma g \Gamma$$

- This motivates generalization to $T_{([g_3], \rho_3); Q}^{([g_1], \rho_1) \rightarrow ([g_2], \rho_2)}$ where each ρ_i is a representation of $\Gamma \cap g_i^{-1} \Gamma g_i$. It can easily be worked out.

Algebra of Zhou-Zhu operators

- The origin of this structure is roughly as follows. Consider $\Gamma(2) \subset \Gamma_1^*(2)$ and try to “gauge” it. To do so, note that the following group

$$K = \bigcap_{x \in \Gamma_1^*(2)} x\Gamma(2)x^{-1} = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in \Gamma(2) \mid c \equiv 0 \pmod{4} \right\}$$

leaves each gr_i invariant, and we have the following

$$\Gamma(2)/K \cong \mathbb{Z}_2, \quad \Gamma_1^*(2)/K \cong D_8.$$

- Thus the double cosets are given by

$$\Gamma(2) \backslash \Gamma_1^*(2) / \Gamma(2) \cong \mathbb{Z}_2 \backslash D_8 / \mathbb{Z}_2.$$

As complex algebras, we have $\mathbb{Z}_2 \backslash D_8 / \mathbb{Z}_2 = \text{Ising fusion ring}$.

- As for little groups, both 1 and η cosets have $\mathbb{Z}_2$ little group, so they correspond to two elements (trivial vs. sign rep.) in the $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -gauged D_8 theory. The sign rep. pulls back to ε_η .

Eigenforms of the Zhou-Zhu algebra

- Explicit irreps can be written in terms of the Eisenstein series E_4 ,

$$f_1(\tau) = E_4(\tau) + 4E_4(2\tau) ,$$

$$f_\epsilon(\tau) = E_4(\tau) - 4E_4(2\tau) ,$$

$$f_\sigma(\tau) = E_4(\tau/2) - E_4((\tau+1)/2) ,$$

$$f_\mu(\tau) = 64E_4(4\tau) - 4E_4(\tau+1/2) .$$

- Then we find that

$$T_{[T]}^{\varepsilon_1 \rightarrow \varepsilon_1} f_1 = f_1 , \quad T_{[W]}^{\varepsilon_1 \rightarrow \varepsilon_1} f_1 = \sqrt{2} f_1 , \quad T_{[W]}^{\varepsilon_1 \rightarrow \varepsilon_\eta} f_1 = 0 ,$$

$$T_{[T]}^{\varepsilon_1 \rightarrow \varepsilon_1} f_\epsilon = f_\epsilon , \quad T_{[W]}^{\varepsilon_1 \rightarrow \varepsilon_1} f_\epsilon = -\sqrt{2} f_\epsilon , \quad T_{[W]}^{\varepsilon_1 \rightarrow \varepsilon_\eta} f_\epsilon = 0 .$$

$$T_{[T]}^{\varepsilon_1 \rightarrow \varepsilon_1} f_\sigma = -f_\sigma , \quad T_{[W]}^{\varepsilon_1 \rightarrow \varepsilon_1} f_\sigma = 0 , \quad T_{[W]}^{\varepsilon_1 \rightarrow \varepsilon_\eta} f_\sigma = \sqrt{2} f_\mu ,$$

$$T_{[T]}^{\varepsilon_\eta \rightarrow \varepsilon_\eta} f_\mu = f_\mu , \quad T_{[W]}^{\varepsilon_\eta \rightarrow \varepsilon_1} f_\mu = \sqrt{2} f_\sigma , \quad T_{[W]}^{\varepsilon_\eta \rightarrow \varepsilon_\eta} f_\mu = 0 .$$

Non-invertible vvmfs

- This is a non-invertible analog of a well-known construction. For example, we have

$$\mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{Z})/\Gamma(2) \cong S_3$$

so we can easily construct a vector of modular forms transforming in a representation of S_3 , e.g.

$$(\theta_2^8(\tau), \theta_3^8(\tau), \theta_4^8(\tau)) .$$

- Similar things can be done using

$$\mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{Z})/\pm\Gamma(3) \cong A_4 , \quad \mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{Z})/\pm\Gamma(4) \cong S_4 , \quad \mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{Z})/\pm\Gamma(5) \cong A_5 .$$

- In the current case, we begin with the Fricke group $\Gamma_1^*(N)$ and quotient by $\pm\Gamma(N)$. However, $\pm\Gamma(N)$ is not normal in $\Gamma_1^*(N)$, so we must consider the double-coset algebra

$$\pm\Gamma(N)\backslash\Gamma_1^*(N)/\pm\Gamma(N) \cong \mathrm{TY}(\mathbb{Z}_N) \text{ fusion ring} .$$

Conclusions

- Zhou-Zhu operators and their generalizations give rise to a large number of relations between RCFT characters.
- For $\Gamma = \pm\Gamma(N)$, the algebra of a certain subsector of Zhou-Zhu operators reproduces the tube algebra of $\text{TY}(\mathbb{Z}_N)$.
- What can we use this for?
 - Applications to modular flavor symmetry? (discussions with T. Kai, K. Kina, H. Otsuka)
 - Useful for spurion analysis?
 - Extension to MTCs? (see also [Harvey-Hu-Wu '19])

The End (for now)

Thank you!