Decorated TQFTs and their Hilbert spaces

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ABSTRACT: We discuss topological quantum field theories that compute topological invariants which depend on additional structures (or decorations) on three-manifolds. The \( q \)-series invariant \( \hat{Z}(q) \) proposed by Gukov, Pei, Putrov, and Vafa is an example of such an invariant. We describe how to obtain these decorated invariants by cutting and gluing and make a proposal for Hilbert spaces that are assigned to two-dimensional surfaces in the \( \hat{Z} \)-TQFT.

KEYWORDS: Topological Field Theories, Chern-Simons Theories, Differential and Algebraic Geometry, Quantum Groups

ArXiv ePrint: 2206.14967
1 Introduction

When given a topological quantum field theory (TQFT), the first question one asks is, “What does it compute?” In general, given a three-manifold, a three-dimensional TQFT computes for us a topological invariant of that three-manifold. For example, the SU(2) Chern-Simons theory at level \( k \in \mathbb{Z} \) computes the Witten-Reshetikhin-Turaev (WRT) invariants of three-manifolds [1, 2]. A decorated TQFT computes a topological invariant that depends on additional data. We call this additional data “decoration”. One classic example of such an invariant is the Reidemeister-Milnor-Turaev torsion which is a topological invariant of three-manifolds that depends on the Spin\(^c\) structure of the three-manifold [3].

In [4], Atiyah axiomatized the notion of topological quantum field theory. In a three-dimensional TQFT, a vector space is assigned to every two-dimensional surface \( \Sigma \), and a vector in that vector space is assigned to a three-manifold with boundary \( \Sigma \). We can obtain the partition function of a TQFT on a closed manifold by cutting it into simpler pieces and gluing them back together. Thus by their very nature TQFTs give us topological invariants. This axiomatization was extended to Spin TQFTs in [5, 6]. In this paper, we describe how to do the cutting and gluing for some TQFTs decorated by Spin\(^c\)-structures or cohomology classes.

In [7, 8], Gukov, Pei, Putrov, and Vafa conjectured the existence of the three-manifold invariant \( \hat{Z}_b(M^3, q) \) valued in \( q \)-series. This \( q \)-series invariant depends on the choice of Spin\(^c\) structure on the three-manifold. \( \hat{Z}_b(M^3, q) \) is believed to give a non-perturbative definition of complex Chern-Simons theory with gauge group SL(2, \( \mathbb{C} \)). In various limits, this \( q \)-series invariant is related to other topological invariants [9–11]. It is connected to different areas of mathematics and physics such as resurgence [12], three-dimensional gauge theories, modular forms, vertex operator algebra [13–15], etc.

As \( \hat{Z}_b(M^3, q) \) is a \( q \)-series with integer coefficients, there is hope that it can be categorized. Finding a four-dimensional TQFT that is a categorification of \( \hat{Z} \)-TQFT would be quite
helpful for the classification problem of smooth four-manifolds. Before one can categorify
the \( \hat{Z} \)-TQFT, one has to properly understand the TQFT that computes the \( \hat{Z} \)-invariant.
An important question for understanding the \( \hat{Z} \)-TQFT is: what does \( \hat{Z} \)-TQFT assign to a
\( g \)-surface \( \Sigma_g \) in the \( \hat{Z} \)-TQFT is given by,

\[
H_{\hat{Z}}(\Sigma_g) = H_{(2g,2)} \otimes \mathbb{C}[\mathbb{Z}^{2g} \times \mathbb{Z}^{2g}].
\]

(1.1)

Where \( H_{(2g,2)} \) is the Hilbert space of \( 2g \) bosonic oscillators and \( 2 \) fermionic oscillators.

**Organization of the paper.** In section 2, we give a simple example of a decorated
TQFT, where the TQFT is decorated by \( H^1(M_3, \mathbb{Z}_2) \). We also discuss how the decorations
of a three-manifold decompose into grading and decorations of Hilbert spaces in a decorated
TQFT. In section 3, we move on to a slightly non-trivial example of a decorated TQFT.
We discuss the TQFT for inverse Reidemeister-Milnor-Turaev torsion, which is decorated
by Spin\( ^c \)-structures. In section 4, we discuss how to obtain the \( q \)-series \( \hat{Z} \) by cutting and
gluing states and operators (\( k \)-linear maps) on a Hilbert space. In section 5, using conjectured relations
between the \( \hat{Z} \)-invariant and other three-manifold invariants, we propose relations between
Hilbert spaces in their TQFTs. These relations are illustrated in figure 1.

2 General structure of decorated TQFTs

A simple example of decorated TQFT is U(1) Chern-Simons theory at level \( k \) “enriched” by
0-form global symmetry \( \mathbb{Z}_2 \).\(^1\) We could think of this theory as Spin Chern-Simons theory,
which was introduced in [17]. We couple this theory to a background flat connection
\( B_{2\pi} \in H^1(M_3, \mathbb{Z}_2) \). Its partition function in terms of path integral can be written as,

\[
Z(M_3, B) = \int DA \exp \left\{ 2\pi i \int_{M_3} \frac{ka + b}{2\pi} \land \frac{F}{2\pi} \right\}.
\]

(2.1)

The partition function depends on the topology of \( M_3 \) and additional data, viz. the back-
ground flat connection \( B \). We say the partition function is decorated by \( B \).

This theory has 0-dimensional charged operators, and charge operators \( O_g(\Sigma) \) with
\( g \in \mathbb{Z}_2 \subset \mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Z} \) supported on a two-dimensional surface \( \Sigma \) (we refer to [18] for details on
theories with generalized global symmetries). An operator with charge \( m \) can be thought

\(^1\)In general, we could consider a \( \mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Z} \) symmetry. However, here we consider its subgroup \( \mathbb{Z}_2 \subset \mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Z} \).
Where \((+1) \in \mathbb{Z}_2 \rightarrow 0 \in \mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Z} \), and \((-1) \in \mathbb{Z}_2 \rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \in \mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Z} \).
of as a monopole with magnetic flux $m = \int_{S^2} F$. The charge operator $O_g(\Sigma)$ is given by

$$O_g(\Sigma) = \exp\left(ig \int_{\Sigma} F\right).$$

Since $\int_{\Sigma} F \in 2\pi \mathbb{Z}$, these operators satisfy $O_{g_1}(\Sigma) \cdot O_{g_2}(\Sigma) = O_{g_3}(\Sigma)$ with $g_3 = g_1 + g_2 \mod 1$. We can turn on the decoration $B$ by inserting a charge operator on 2-chain representing the Poincaré dual of $B$. When it is inserted on a “constant time” slice (see figure 2a), we interpret it as an operator acting on Hilbert space, and when it has an extent in “time-direction” (see figure 2b) it takes us to a different decoration (sector) of the Hilbert space. In general, Hilbert spaces associated with co-dimension-one manifolds in a decorated TQFT have induced decorations and grading. A choice of decoration on $\Sigma \times S^1$ usually splits into a choice of decoration on $\Sigma$ and a choice of parameter dual to the grading on the Hilbert space associated with $\Sigma$. In our example, $H^1(\Sigma \times S^1, \mathbb{Z}_2)$ splits into

$$H^1(\Sigma \times S^1, \mathbb{Z}_2) \cong H^1(\Sigma, \mathbb{Z}_2) \oplus H^0(\Sigma, \mathbb{Z}_2) \cong H^1(\Sigma, \mathbb{Z}_2) \oplus \text{Hom}(H_0(\Sigma, \mathbb{Z}), \mathbb{Z}_2).$$

(2.2)

To turn on a decoration $B$ with $\frac{B}{2\pi} \in H^1(\Sigma, \mathbb{Z}_2) \subset H^1(\Sigma \times S^1, \mathbb{Z}_2)$, we insert a charge operator with an extent in time. Thus we have a Hilbert space $\mathcal{H}(\Sigma)$ decorated by $H^1(\Sigma, \mathbb{Z}_2)$ and graded by $H_0(\Sigma, \mathbb{Z})$. The graded dimensions of this Hilbert space are given by

$$Z(\Sigma \times S^1, \omega \oplus \alpha) = \sum_{n \in H_0(\Sigma, \mathbb{Z})} e^{2\pi i \alpha(n)} \dim \mathcal{H}(\Sigma, \omega, n).$$

(2.3)

Where $\omega \in H^1(\Sigma, \mathbb{Z}_2)$ and $\alpha \in \text{Hom}(H_0(\Sigma, \mathbb{Z}), \mathbb{Z}_2)$, with $\mathbb{Z}_2$ thought of as a subgroup of $\mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Z}$. 

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**Figure 1.** 0-decorated and $(\ell, m)$-graded sectors of Hilbert space associated to torus at $q = 1$, $q = e^{2\pi i k}$ and at a generic value of $q$. See section 2 for details on decorations and gradings of Hilbert spaces.
(a) Charge operator on a “constant time” slice. (b) Charge operator with extent in “time”.

**Figure 2.** The arrows indicate the time direction, and the gray spatial slice is the slice with which we associated a Hilbert space.

![Figure 2](image1.png)

Another interesting set of operators in this theory is the set of line operators. The line operators are given by,

$$W_e(\gamma) = \exp \left( i e \int_\gamma A \right),$$  \hspace{1cm} (2.4)

where the decimal part of $e$ is fixed, with $e = g \mod 1$. In U(1) Chern-Simons theory at level $k$ “enriched” by 0-form global symmetry $\mathbb{Z}_2$, there are $2k$ such line operators. These line operators have charges $[g], 1 + [g], \ldots, k - 1 + [g]$, where $[g] \in \{0, \frac{1}{2}\}$. Another way to think of these line operators is by thinking of the usual U(1) Chern-Simons theory line operators sitting at the core of a solid torus with charge operator $O_g(\Sigma)$ surrounding them, such that $\Sigma$ is homologous to the boundary torus (see figure 3). Depending on how we fill in $T^2$ to get a solid torus, we get different vectors in the Hilbert space associated with the boundary torus.

For each decoration, the Hilbert space associated with the torus is a $k$-dimensional vector space $\mathbb{C}^k$. The action of generators of modular group, $S$ and $T$, on these vector
spaces is given by,

\[ S_{\lambda_1, \mu_1, \lambda_2, \mu_2, n_1, n_2}^{k_1, k_2} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{k}} \delta_{n_1, n_2} \delta_{\lambda_1, -\mu_2} \delta_{\mu_1, \lambda_2} q^{-(k_1 + \lambda_1)(k_2 + \lambda_2)} \]  

(2.5)

\[ T_{\lambda_1, \mu_1, \lambda_2, \mu_2, n_1, n_2}^{k_1, k_2} = \delta_{n_1, n_2} \delta_{\lambda_1, \lambda_2} \delta_{\mu_1, \mu_2} \delta_{\lambda_1, k_1} q^{-\frac{\pi i}{12} q^{\frac{(\lambda_1 + k_1)^2}{2}}}. \]  

(2.6)

Here \( \lambda_i, \mu_i \in \mathbb{Z}_2 \subset \mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Z} \), give us the gradings, \( k_i \in \mathbb{Z}_k \) label the basis of \( \mathbb{C}^k \), and \( q = e^{2\pi i} \). In this example, the partition function is decorated by a flat connection \( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \in H^1(M_3, \mathbb{Z}_2) \). The cohomology group \( H^1(M_3, \mathbb{Z}_2) \) acts transitively and freely on \( \text{Spin}(M_3) \), space of spin structures on \( M_3 \). Once make a choice of a spin structure on \( M_3 \), the set of spin structures on \( M_3 \) is in bijection with \( H^1(M_3, \mathbb{Z}_2) \). Then we could think of \( Z(M_3, B) \) as being decorated by \( \text{Spin}(M_3) \).

In general, the action of the modular group on decorations and grading on \( \Sigma \) tells us how different sectors labeled by decorations and grading are mapped to each other under the action of the modular group on the Hilbert space. However, this does not completely specify the action of the modular group on the Hilbert space. If the sectors of the Hilbert space with given decoration and grading are non-trivial, they could have a non-trivial action of the modular group.

3 Inverse Reidemeister-Milnor-Turaev torsion

We will now look at topological quantum field theories decorated with \( \text{Spin}^c \)-structures. The cohomology group \( H^2(M_3, \mathbb{Z}) \) acts transitively and freely on \( \text{Spin}^c(M_3) \). Throughout the paper, we assume that we have a \( \text{Spin}^c \)-structure on \( M_3 \). Once we choose a \( \text{Spin}^c \)-structure on \( M_3 \), it gives a bijection between the sets \( \text{Spin}^c(M_3) \) and \( H^2(M_3, \mathbb{Z}) \). Due to this bijection, we can think of them as TQFTs decorated by \( H^2(M_3, \mathbb{Z}) \). Reidemeister-Milnor-Turaev torsion, \( \tau \), is a \( \text{Spin}^c \) decorated topological invariant which can be computed by \( U(1, 1) \) supergroup Chern-Simons theory coupled to a background complex flat connection [19]. It is closely related to the Alexander polynomial, whose TQFT construction was discussed in [20]. Inverse Reidemeister-Milnor-Turaev torsion is a bilateral series in generators of the first homology group. By inverse Reidemeister-Milnor-Turaev torsion, we mean the bilateral series we get by inverting Reidemeister-Milnor-Turaev torsion.

For example, the Reidemeister-Milnor-Turaev torsion for a mapping torus of \( T^2 \) is given by,

\[ \tau(T^2 \times \varphi S^1) = \frac{\det(zI_{2 \times 2} - \varphi)}{(z - 1)^2} = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \delta_{n, 0} + \frac{|n|}{2} (2 - \text{Tr} \varphi) z^n. \]  

(3.1)

Where \( \varphi \) is the element of the mapping class group of the torus (i.e., \( \varphi \in \text{SL}(2, \mathbb{Z}) \)) describing the twist along the base circle \( S^1 \), and \( z \) is the generator of the cycle along the base circle. The inverse Reidemeister-Milnor-Turaev torsion for a mapping tori of \( T^2 \) is given by,

\[ \tau^{-1}(T^2 \times \varphi S^1) = \frac{(z - 1)^2}{\det(zI_{2 \times 2} - \varphi)}. \]  

(3.2)
Its bilateral series is given by,
\[
\sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \delta_{n,0} + \text{sgn}(n) \frac{\text{Tr} \varphi - 2 (\text{Tr} \varphi + \sqrt{(\text{Tr} \varphi)^2 - 4})^n - (\text{Tr} \varphi - \sqrt{(\text{Tr} \varphi)^2 - 4})^n}{2^n \sqrt{(\text{Tr} \varphi)^2 - 4}} z^n. \quad (3.3)
\]
For mapping tori \( T^2 \times \varphi S^1 \),
\[
H_1(T^2 \times \varphi S^1) \cong \text{Coker}(\varphi - I) \oplus \mathbb{Z}. \quad (3.4)
\]
Using the bijection between the sets \( \text{Spin}^c(M_3) \) and \( H^2(M_3, \mathbb{Z}) \cong H_1(M_3, \mathbb{Z}) \), we can get the \( \text{Spin}^c(M_3) \) dependence of \( \tau \) or its inverse. \( \tau(T^2 \times \varphi S^1) \) or its inverse doesn’t depend on the generators in \( \text{Coker}(\varphi - I) \). In other words, they are non-zero only for \( 0 \in \text{Coker}(\varphi - I) \). For \( n \in \mathbb{Z} \) \( \tau \) and \( \tau^{-1} \) are given by the coefficient of \( z^n \) in their respective series.

If we think of \( \tau^{-1}(T^2 \times \varphi S^1) \) as a partition function of a quantum field theory, it suggests that the factor \( (z - 1)^2 \) is coming from fermionic states, while \( \det(zI_{2 \times 2} - \varphi) \) is coming from bosonic states. We will see, this is indeed the case. This TQFT is related to the TQFT that computes \( \tau \) by sending the fermions that give the factor \( (1 - z)^2 \) to bosons and sending the bosons that give the factor \( \det(zI_{2 \times 2} - \varphi) \) to fermions.

The TQFT that computes the inverse Reidemeister-Milnor-Turaev torsion is decorated by \( H^2(M_3, \mathbb{Z}) \). \( H^2(\Sigma \times S^1, \mathbb{Z}) \) splits into,
\[
H^2(\Sigma \times S^1, \mathbb{Z}) \cong H^2(\Sigma, \mathbb{Z}) \oplus H_1(\Sigma, \mathbb{Z}). \quad (3.5)
\]
Therefore, the Hilbert space associated to \( \Sigma \) in this TQFT is decorated by \( H^2(\Sigma, \mathbb{Z}) \) and graded by \( \text{Hom}(H_1(\Sigma, \mathbb{Z}), \mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Z}) \cong H^1(\Sigma, \mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Z}) \). Let’s now look at the Hilbert space associated with the torus in this TQFT. It is given by,
\[
\mathcal{H}_{-1}(T^2) = \mathbb{C}[\mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Z}] \otimes \mathcal{H}_{(2,2)}. \quad (3.6)
\]
Where \( \mathcal{H}_{(2,2)} \) is the Hilbert space of two fermionic and two bosonic harmonic oscillators. The decoration \( H^2(T^2, \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z} \) is given by the particle number on \( \mathcal{H}_{(2,2)} \). While the grading \( \text{Hom}(H_1(T^2, \mathbb{Z}), \mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Z}) \cong \text{Hom}(\mathbb{Z}^2, \mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Z}) \cong (\mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Z})^2 \) is inherited from the \( (\mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Z})^2 \) grading of \( \mathbb{C}[\mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Z}] \).

Let \( \alpha \) and \( \beta \) be the bosonic annihilation operators, and \( \psi \) and \( \chi \) be the fermionic annihilation operators in \( \mathcal{H}_{(2,2)} \). Their non-trivial (anti)commutation relations are given as follows,
\[
[\alpha, \alpha^\dagger] = z \quad [\beta, \beta^\dagger] = z \quad [\psi, \psi^\dagger] = z \quad [\chi, \chi^\dagger] = z. \quad (3.7)
\]
The basis of \( n \)-particle subspace of \( \mathcal{H}_{(2,2)} \) consists of states of the form
\[
|i, n - a - b - i, a, b\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{i!(n - a - b - i)!}} (\psi^\dagger)^a (\chi^\dagger)^b (\alpha^\dagger)^i (\beta^\dagger)^{n-a-b-i} |0\rangle \quad (3.8)
\]
Where \( a, b \in \{0, 1\} \), and \( i, n - a - b - i \in \{0, 1, \ldots n - a - b\} \). With (anti)commutation relations given in equation \( (3.7) \), the norms of \( n \)-particle states described above are simply \( (-1)^{a+b} z^n \).
The Hilbert space \( \mathcal{H}_{(2,2)} \) can be broken down into four subspaces; one purely bosonic, two with one fermionic particle, and one with two fermionic particles. Further, the vector space of purely bosonic states can be written as the direct sum of symmetric tensor products of purely bosonic one-particle subspace.

\[
\mathcal{H}_{(2,2)} = \bigoplus_{n=0}^{\infty} \text{Sym}^n V \oplus \psi^1 \bigoplus_{n=0}^{\infty} \text{Sym}^n V \oplus \chi^1 \bigoplus_{n=0}^{\infty} \text{Sym}^n V \oplus \psi^1 \chi^1 \bigoplus_{n=0}^{\infty} \text{Sym}^n V .
\] (3.9)

Where \( V \) is the two dimensional vector space \( V = \text{Span}\{\alpha^1 |0\rangle, \beta^1 |0\rangle\} \). This division into four subspaces carries on to the \( n \)-particle subspace of \( \mathcal{H}_{(2,2)} \). For the mapping tori of \( T^2 \), the part of the partition function coming from fermions, \((z-1)^2\), does not depend on twisting along the base circle. This tells us that the action of \( \text{SL}(2, \mathbb{Z}) \) on fermionic generators is trivial. Therefore, the action \( \varphi \in \text{SL}(2, \mathbb{Z}) \) on \( n \)-particle subspace of \( \mathcal{H}_{(2,2)} \) takes the following block diagonal form,

\[
\begin{pmatrix}
\varphi_n \\
\varphi_{n-1} \\
\varphi_{n-1} \\
\varphi_{n-2}
\end{pmatrix}.
\] (3.10)

Where \( \varphi_n \) represents the action of \( \varphi \) on purely bosonic \( n \)-particle subspace \( \text{Sym}^n V \). The action of \( \varphi \) on \( \text{Sym}^n V \) is given by its action on \( V \), which is the usual action of \( \text{SL}(2, \mathbb{Z}) \) on a two-dimensional vector space. \( \text{Sym}^n V \) is a \( n + 1 \)-dimensional vector space with basis

\[
\begin{align*}
|i\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{i!(n-i)!}} (\alpha^1)^i (\beta^1)^{n-i} |0\rangle, \quad i \in \{0, 1, \ldots, n\}.
\end{align*}
\] (3.11)

In this basis the matrix elements of \( \varphi = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in \text{SL}(2, \mathbb{Z}) \) are given by,

\[
\varphi_{i,j} = \sum_{k=\text{Max}(i,j)}^{\text{Min}(i+j,n)} a^{n-k} b^{k-j} c^{j} d^{i} e^{i-j-k} \sqrt{i!(n-i)!j!(n-j)!}. \] (3.12)

Now let’s look at the \( \text{SL}(2, \mathbb{Z}) \) action on \( \mathbb{C}[\mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Z}] \) part of the Hilbert space. We consider the basis of \( \mathbb{C}[\mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Z}] \) labeled by \((\lambda, \mu) \in (\mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Z})^2\), \( \{f_{\lambda,\mu}|f_{\lambda,\mu}(\lambda', \mu') = \delta(\lambda-\lambda')\delta(\mu-\mu')\} \). In this basis the matrix elements of \( \varphi = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in \text{SL}(2, \mathbb{Z}) \) are given by,

\[
\varphi_{\lambda_1,\mu_1,\lambda_2,\mu_2} = \delta(\lambda_1 + c\mu_1 - \lambda_2)\delta(b\lambda_1 + d\mu_1 - \mu_2). \] (3.13)

Taking a graded trace of \( \varphi : \mathcal{H}_{z-1(T^2)} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{z-1(T^2)} \) gives us the inverse Reidemeister-Milnor-Turaev torsion, \( \tau^{-1}_{t,m}(T^2 \times \varphi S^1, z) \), of mapping tori \( T^2 \times \varphi S^1 \). Taking a trace over \( \mathcal{H}_{2,2} \) gives us,

\[
\text{Tr}_{\mathcal{H}_{2,2}}(\varphi) = \frac{(z-1)^2}{1 - (a + d)z + z^2} . \] (3.14)

\(^2\)Note the delta function is on \( \mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Z} \).
While, taking a graded trace of \( \varphi \) over \( \mathbb{C}[\mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Z}] \) gives us,

\[
\int_0^1 \int_0^1 d\lambda d\mu \varphi_{\lambda \mu, \lambda \mu} e^{2\pi i (\lambda \ell + \mu m)}
= \int_0^1 \int_0^1 d\lambda d\mu \delta(a \lambda + c \mu - \lambda) \delta(b \lambda + d \mu - \mu) e^{2\pi i (\lambda \ell + \mu m)}
= \sum_{k,a,b,c} \int_0^1 \int_0^1 d\lambda d\mu e^{-2\pi i(a k + c m + k_m b \lambda + d \mu - \mu)} e^{2\pi i (\lambda \ell + \mu m)}
= \sum_{k,a,b,c} \delta_{\ell, (a-1)k + b k_m} \delta_{m,c k + (d-1)k_m}.
\]

Note the graded trace of \( \varphi \) over \( \mathbb{C}[\mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Z}] \) is non-zero only for \( (\ell, m) \in (\varphi - I)\mathbb{Z}^2 \) that is \( (\ell, m) = 0 \in \text{Coker}(\varphi - I) \).

We can represent the Hilbert space in such a way that it is graded by \( H^1(T^2, \mathbb{Z}) \) and decorated by \( H^2(T^2, \mathbb{Z}) \) by taking a “Fourier transform” (described below) of the \( H^1(T^2, \mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Z}) \) grading. In that case, the Hilbert space associated with the torus can be written as

\[
\mathcal{H}_{\tau^{-1}}(T^2) = \mathbb{C}[\mathbb{Z}^2] \otimes \mathcal{H}_{2,2}.
\]

For genus \( g \) surface \( \Sigma_g \) the inverse Reidemeister-Milnor-Turaev torsion of \( \Sigma_g \times S^1 \) is given by,

\[
\tau^{-1}(\Sigma_g \times S^1) = \frac{(z - 1)^2}{(z - 1)^{2g}}.
\]

Therefore, the Hilbert space associated with \( \Sigma_g \) in this TQFT is given by

\[
\mathcal{H}_{\tau^{-1}}(\Sigma_g) = \mathbb{C}[\mathbb{Z}^{2g}] \otimes \mathcal{H}_{2g,2}.
\]

Where \( \mathcal{H}_{2g,2} \) is the Hilbert space of \( 2g \)-bosonic oscillators and \( 2 \)-fermionic oscillators. \( \text{Sp}(2g, \mathbb{Z}) \) acts trivially on the fermionic creation operators. The action of \( \text{Sp}(2g, \mathbb{Z}) \) on bosonic operators is induced by its action on the \( 2g \)-dimensional vector space of one-particle bosonic states. The action of \( \text{Sp}(2g, \mathbb{Z}) \) on \( \mathbb{C}[\mathbb{Z}^{2g}] \) is induced by action of \( \text{Sp}(2g, \mathbb{Z}) \) on \( \mathbb{Z}^{2g} \).

Let us now summarise the structure of TQFTs decorated by \( H^2(\cdot, \mathbb{Z}) \).

- A TQFT decorated by \( H^2(\cdot, \mathbb{Z}) \) assigns a vector space \( Z(\Sigma, \omega) \) to each oriented surface \( \Sigma \) and \( \omega \in H^2(\Sigma, \mathbb{Z}) \). We call \( \omega \) the decoration of \( Z(\Sigma, \omega) \).

- \( Z(\Sigma, \omega) \) is graded by \( \text{Hom}(H_1(\Sigma, \mathbb{Z}), \mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Z}) \cong H^1(\Sigma, \mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Z}) \). We can switch between \( \mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Z} \) grading and \( \mathbb{Z} \) grading using a “Fourier transform”:

\[
Z(e^{2\pi i \lambda}) \rightarrow Z(n) = \oint \frac{dz}{2\pi i z} Z(z) z^{-n}.
\]

- A TQFT decorated by \( H^2(\cdot, \mathbb{Z}) \) assigns a vector \( Z(M, \omega) \in Z(\partial M, \omega_{|\partial M}) \) to each oriented closed three-manifold \( M \) and \( \omega \in H^2(M, \mathbb{Z}) \).

\( ^3 \)We thank the reviewer for pointing this out.
• To an orientation preserving diffeomorphism $f : \Sigma_1 \to \Sigma_2$, a TQFT decorated by $H^2(\cdot, \mathbb{Z})$ assigns a linear map $Z(f) : Z(\Sigma_1, f^*(\omega)) \to Z(\Sigma_2, \omega)$, such that $f^*(\alpha)$-graded sector of $Z(\Sigma_1, f^*(\omega))$ are mapped to $\alpha$-graded sector of $Z(\Sigma_2, \omega)$.

• Suppose $M$ is obtained by gluing $M_1$ and $M_2$ along $\Sigma$ using an orientation preserving diffeomorphism $f : \Sigma \to \Sigma$. A decorated TQFT assigns $Z(M_i, \omega_i) \in Z(\Sigma, \omega_i|_\Sigma)$. We get $Z(M, \omega)$ from them as follows,

$$Z(M, \omega) = \sum_\alpha \langle Z(M_2, \alpha) | D(\omega) Z(f) | Z(M_1, f^*(\alpha)) \rangle.$$  \hfill (3.21)

Where $D$ is a linear map that depends on $\omega \in H^2(M, \mathbb{Z})$.

4 \textbf{q-series $\hat{Z}$}

Since the $q$-series invariant $\hat{Z}(q)$ was first proposed in [7, 8], the understanding of its decorations has developed over time. In [7, 8] $\hat{Z}(q)$ was labeled by abelian flat connections. For rational homology spheres, the set of flat abelian connections is the same as $\text{Hom}(H_1(M_3, \mathbb{Z}), \mathbb{U}(1))/\mathbb{Z}_2$. In [21], for manifolds with $b_1 > 0$, $\hat{Z}$ was decorated by abelian and “almost abelian” flat connections on $M_3$. The set of abelian flat connections, in this case, is in bijection with the torsion part of $H_1(M_3, \mathbb{Z})/\mathbb{Z}_2$. Later, in [16] it was understood that $\hat{Z}$ should in fact, be decorated by Spin$^c$-structures on $M_3$. We pick a Spin$^c$-structure on $M_3$ which gives us a bijection between Spin$^c(M_3)$ and $H_1(M_3, \mathbb{Z})$. Using this bijection between Spin$^c(M_3)$ and $H_1(M_3, \mathbb{Z})$, the $\hat{Z}$s are now labeled by spin$^c$-structures associated with $(0, b) \in H_1(M_3, \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}b_1 \oplus \text{Tors}H_1(M_3, \mathbb{Z})$. Where Tors$H_1(M_3, \mathbb{Z})$ is the torsion part of $H_1(M_3, \mathbb{Z})$.

In this section, we will interpret the surgery formula for $\hat{Z}$ on plumbed manifolds proposed in [21] as cutting and gluing of states and operators ($k$-linear maps) on a Hilbert space assigned to a torus, and make comments on how this Hilbert space is related to the Hilbert space that $\hat{Z}$-TQFT assigns to a torus.

\textbf{Surgery formula for plumbed manifolds.} By the Lickorish-Wallace theorem, any closed oriented connected 3-manifold can be obtained by performing an integral Dehn surgery on a link in $S^3$. Plumbed manifolds are a special class of manifolds that can be obtained by performing an integral Dehn surgery on a link in $S^3$, which is made up of linked unknots. This class of three-manifolds can be described by a graph whose vertices are labeled by integers. This graph is called the plumbing graph.

Each vertex of the plumbing graph corresponds to an unknot in $S^3$, and the integer that labels the vertex is the framing of that unknot. An edge between two vertices corresponds to a linking between the unknots corresponding to the two vertices. For each cycle in the plumbing graph, we add a 0-framed unknot that wraps around the cycle (see figure 4).
Figure 4. Examples of plumbing graph of links of unknots.

The plumbing graph can further be described by its linking matrix, which is defined as follows,

\[
Q_{vv'} = \begin{cases} 
    a_v & \text{if } v = v' \\
    -1 & \text{if } (v, v') \in E \\
    0 & \text{otherwise.}
\end{cases}
\]  

(4.1)

Where \( v, v' \) are in the vertex set of the plumbing graph, \( E \) is the edge set, and \( a_v \) are the framing coefficients. The first homology group of the plumbed manifold can be described in terms of its linking matrix as follows,

\[
H_1(M_3, \mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{Z}^{b_1(\Gamma)} \times \mathbb{Z}^V / Q\mathbb{Z}^V.
\]  

(4.2)

Where \( V \) is the number of vertices in the plumbing graph, and \( b_1(\Gamma) \) is the first Betti number of the graph or equivalently number of cycles in the graph.

In \cite{21} a surgery formula for \( \hat{Z} \) of plumbed manifolds with \( b_1 > 0 \) was given. This surgery formula gives us \( \hat{Z}_{0,b} \), with \((0, b) \in \mathbb{Z}^{b_1} \oplus (2\text{Coker}(Q) + \delta)/\mathbb{Z}_2\). The surgery formula
for $\hat{Z}_{0,b}$ can be written as

$$
\hat{Z}_{0,b}(q) = q^{3\sigma - \sum_{v} a_v} q^{-\ell k(b) T^2 Q^{-1} b} \sum_{k\in\mathbb{Z}^v} q^{-kT Q k + kT b} \times \text{v.p.} \oint_{|z_v|=1} \prod_{v} \frac{dz_v}{2\pi iz_v} (z_v - z_v^{-1})^{2-\deg(v)} z^{2Q k + b}.
$$

(4.3)

Where $\sigma$ is the signature of the linking matrix $Q$, $\deg(v)$ is the degree of vertex $v$, and "v.p." tells us that we should consider principle value prescription for contour integrals (for more details we refer to [21]). Let $f_{Q,n_v}$ denote the coefficients of the series expansion of $(z_v - 1/z_v)^{2-\deg(v)}$. That is,

$$
(z_v - 1/z_v)^{2-\deg(v)} = \sum_{n_v\in\mathbb{Z}} f_{Q,n_v} z^{n_v}
$$

(4.4)

$f_{Q,n_v}$ is simple for $\deg(v) \leq 2$ and terminates after finite terms. For $\deg(v) > 2$, $f_{Q,n_v}$ is given by,

$$
f_{Q,n_v} = \begin{cases} 
\frac{\text{sgn}(n_v)\deg(v)}{2} & \text{if } |n_v| \geq \deg(v) - 2, \text{ and } n_v = \deg(v) \mod 2 \\
0 & \text{otherwise.}
\end{cases}
$$

(4.5)

Using the series expansion of $(z_v - 1/z_v)^{2-\deg(v)}$, we can do the principle value prescription contour integrals in equation (4.3) and get,

$$
\hat{Z}_{0,b}(q) = q^{3\sigma - \sum_{v} a_v} q^{-\ell k(b) T^2 b} \sum_{k\in\mathbb{Z}^v} \sum_{n_v\in\mathbb{Z}^v} q^{-\chi_b(k)} f_{Q,n} \delta_{2Q k + b,n}
$$

(4.6)

Where $\ell k : \text{Tors} H_1(M_3) \times \text{Tors} H_1(M_3) \to \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}$, is the linking pairing, which is given by $\ell k(a,b) = a^T Q^{-1} b \mod 1$, the quadratic function $\chi_b : \mathbb{Z}^v \to \mathbb{Z}$ is given by $\chi_b(k) = kT Q k + bT k$, and the term $q^{3\sigma - \sum_{v} a_v}$ comes from the framing anomaly. Since the quadratic function $\chi_b$ is valued in integers, the sum in equation (4.6) is valued in $\mathbb{Z}[[q^{-1}]]$.

**Surgery formula from Hilbert space.** A plumbing graph of a plumbed three-manifold encodes the information about how the three-manifold can be obtained by gluing $T^2 \times [0,1]$ along the torus boundaries. Each edge of plumbing graph corresponds to gluing by $S \in \text{SL}(2,\mathbb{Z})$ (see figure 5) and a vertex with coefficient $a_v$ corresponds to gluing by $T^{a_v} \in \text{SL}(2,\mathbb{Z})$. Similarly, a surgery formula encodes how a three-manifold invariant can be obtained by cutting and gluing. In a TQFT, a manifold with a torus boundary, depending on its orientation, is associated with a vector in $\mathcal{H}(T^2)$ or $\text{Hom}(\mathcal{H}(T^2),\mathbb{C})$, a manifold with $r + r'$ torus boundaries, with $r$ of them oriented one way and the other $r'$ oriented the other way, is associated with an element of $\text{Hom}(\mathcal{H}(T^2)^r,\mathcal{H}(T^2)^{r'})$ (see figure 6). We want to understand how to get the surgery formula (4.6) by cutting and gluing states and operators ($k$-linear maps) on $\mathcal{H}(T^2)$.

\footnote{For negative definite plumbed manifolds we can choose $b$ such that the sum is valued in $\mathbb{Z}[[q]]$.}
Figure 5. Gluing two $T^2 \times I$ along (black) boundary $T^2$ by $S \in SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$.

Figure 6. This manifold is associated with an element of $\text{Hom}(\mathcal{H}(T^2)^3, \mathcal{H}(T^2)^2)$.

To cut down $q^{-b T^2} Q^{-1 \frac{b}{2}}$ into pieces that can be glued, we have to express it as $q^{-\beta T^2} Q^{\beta}$. Where $\beta$ is given by $\beta = \frac{1}{2} Q^{-1} b$. When we write $q^{-b T^2} Q^{-1 \frac{b}{2}}$ we take $b \in \mathbb{Z}^V$ to be some representative of $[b] \in \mathbb{Z}^V / 2Q \mathbb{Z}^V$. Under $b \rightarrow b + 2Qx$, with $x \in \mathbb{Z}^V$, $\beta \rightarrow \beta + x$. Just as $b$ is a representative of $[b] \in \mathbb{Z}^V / 2Q \mathbb{Z}^V$, $\beta \in \mathbb{Q}^V$ is a representative of $[\beta] \in (\mathbb{Q} / \mathbb{Z})^V$. Just as in all formulae involving $b$, $b$ comes with $2Qk + b$, $\beta$ will come with $k + \beta$. Since in all these formulae, $k \in \mathbb{Z}^V$ is summed over, the choice of representatives doesn’t matter, and we will denote $[\beta]$ by $\beta$.

In terms of $\beta$ the surgery formula (4.6) can be written as

$$\tilde{Z}_{0,\beta}(q) = \sum_{\beta \in (\mathbb{Q} / \mathbb{Z})^V} \tilde{Z}_{0,\beta}^{Q/\mathbb{Z}}(q) \delta_{2Q\beta,b},$$

(4.7)
where
\[
\hat{Z}_{0,\beta}^{Q/Z}(q) = q^{\frac{3n}{4} - \sum_{n}n} \sum_{\nu,\omega} \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}^{D}} q^{-(k+\beta)^T Q(k+\beta)} f_{Q,\omega} \delta_{2Q(k+\beta),\nu}. \tag{4.8}
\]

Note \(\hat{Z}_{0,\beta}^{Q/Z}(q)\) is non-zero only for \(\beta\) such that \(Q\beta \in \mathbb{Z}^{V}\). Written this way, the summand in equation (4.8) can be broken down as follows,

\[
q^{-(k+\beta)^T Q(k+\beta)} = q^{-\sum_{v} a_v (k+\beta)_v^2} q^{2 \sum_{(v,w) \in E} (k+\beta)_v (k+\beta)_w} \tag{4.9}
\]

\[
\delta_{2Q(k+\beta),\nu} = \prod_v \delta_{2\nu_v (k+\beta)_v - 2 \sum_{(v,w) \in E} (k+\beta)_w, n_w}. \tag{4.10}
\]

The fractional part \((Q/Z \times Q/Z)\) corresponds to the label \(\beta\), and the integer part corresponds to \(k\). Further the equations (4.9), (4.10) tell us that the matrix elements of \(S\) and \(T\) elements of \(\text{SL}(2,\mathbb{Z})\) in the basis given by \(\{f_{\lambda,\mu}| f_{\lambda,\mu}(\lambda',\mu') = \delta_{\lambda,\lambda'} \delta_{\mu,\mu'}, \lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{Q}\}\) are,

\[
S_{\lambda_1,\mu_1,\lambda_2,\mu_2} = q^{-2\mu_1 \mu_2 \delta_{\lambda_1,-\mu_2} \delta_{\mu_1,\lambda_2}} \tag{4.12}
\]

\[
T_{\lambda_1,\mu_1,\lambda_2,\mu_2} = q^{-\mu_1^2 \delta_{\lambda_1,\lambda_2} + \mu_2 \delta_{\mu_1,\mu_2}}. \tag{4.13}
\]

In this basis, the matrix elements of \(\varphi = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in \text{SL}(2,\mathbb{Z})\) are given by,

\[
\varphi_{\lambda_1,\mu_1,\lambda_2,\mu_2} = q^{-\delta_{\lambda_1,\lambda_2} - b \mu_1 \mu_2 \delta_{\lambda_1,\lambda_2} + b \mu_2 \delta_{\mu_1,\lambda_2} + c \mu_1 + d \mu_2}. \tag{4.14}
\]

Taking a trace of \(\varphi\) we get \(\hat{Z}\) of mapping tori \(T^2 \times_{\varphi} S^1\). We get the label \((\ell, m)\), with \((\ell, m) \in 2\text{Coker}(\varphi - I)\), by inserting the operator \(D(\lambda, \mu)\) in the trace, where \((\lambda, \mu) = \frac{1}{2}(\varphi - I)^{-1}(\ell, m)\). The operator \(D(\lambda, \mu)\) is given by,

\[
D(\lambda, \mu)_{\lambda_1,\mu_1,\lambda_2,\mu_2} = \sum_{k,l,m \in \mathbb{Z}} \delta_{\lambda_1,\lambda_2} \delta_{\mu_1,\mu_2} \delta_{\lambda_1,k_l + \lambda \delta_{\mu_1},k_m + \mu}. \tag{4.15}
\]

Now \(\hat{Z}_0\) for the mapping tori \(T^2 \times_{\varphi} S^1\) is given by,

\[
\hat{Z}_{0,\beta}(T^2 \times_{\varphi} S^1) = \sum_{\lambda,\mu \in \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}} q^{\frac{\ell - \beta}{4}} \text{Tr}[D(\lambda, \mu)\varphi] \delta_{2(\varphi - I)(\lambda, \mu), (\ell, m)}. \tag{4.16}
\]

Where \(q^{\frac{\ell - \beta}{4}}\) is a contribution from “framing anomaly”. If \(|\text{tr}\{\varphi\}| > 2\), we can represent the conjugacy class of \(\varphi\) by \(\pm R_{r_1}^{\ell_1} L_{r_2}^{\ell_2} \ldots R_{r_n}^{\ell_n} L_{r_n}^{\ell_n}\) with, \(R = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, L = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\), and \(r_i, \ell_i, n \geq 1\), then

\[
q^{\frac{\ell - \beta}{4}} = q^{\sum_{i = 1}^{n} \sum_{r_i}}. \tag{4.17}
\]
Example 1 Let’s look at an example with \( \varphi = RL \). There is no anomaly contribution for \( \varphi = RL \), therefore \( \hat{Z}_{0, (\ell, m)}(T^2 \times_{RL} S^1) \) is given by

\[
\hat{Z}_{0, (\ell, m)}(T^2 \times_{RL} S^1) = \sum_{\lambda_1, \lambda_2 \in Q} \delta_{\lambda_1, \lambda_2} \delta_{\mu_1, \mu_2} \delta_{\lambda_1, k_\ell + \frac{m}{2}} \delta_{\mu_1, k_m + \frac{m}{2}} q^{-\lambda_2 \lambda_1 - \mu_2 \mu_1} \delta_{\lambda_2, 2 \lambda_1 + \mu_1} \delta_{\mu_2, \lambda_1 + \mu_1} = \sum_{k_\ell, k_m \in \mathbb{Z}} \delta_{\ell, 2(k_\ell + k_m)} \delta_{m, 2k_\ell}
\] (4.17)

Thus, \( \hat{Z}_{0, (\ell, m)}(T^2 \times_{RL} S^1) \) is non-zero only for \((\ell, m) \in 2(\varphi - I)\mathbb{Z}^2 \) or equivalently for \((\ell, m) = 0 \in 2\text{Coker}(\varphi - I)\).

The vacuum state in the Hilbert space corresponds to the leaves of plumbing graph (degree one vertex). For a degree one vertex \( v \) \( f_{Q, n_v} \) is given by\(^5\)

\[ f_{1, n} = \delta_{n, -1} - \delta_{n, 1} \] (4.18)

Therefore the vacuum state is given by

\[ v_{\lambda, \mu} = \sum_{\mu' \in \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}} \delta_{\mu, \mu'} (\delta_{2\lambda, 1} - \delta_{2\lambda, -1}) \quad v_{\lambda, \mu}^\dagger = \sum_{\mu' \in \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}} \delta_{\mu, \mu'} (\delta_{2\lambda, -1} - \delta_{2\lambda, 1}) \] (4.19)

While taking conjugate we take \( \lambda \rightarrow -\lambda \), which accounts for orientation reversal. A degree \( d > 2 \) vertex of plumbing graph corresponds to an operator \( O(a) \in \text{Hom}(H(T^2)^r, H(T^2)^{r'}) \), with \( r + r' = d \) and where \( a \) denotes the framing coefficient of the vertex. The operator \( O(a) \) is given by,

\[ O(a)_{\lambda_1, \mu_1; \ldots; \lambda_r, \mu_r} = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} f_{d, n} q^{-a n^2} \delta_0 \delta_{2a \mu_1 + 2} \sum_{i=2}^{r} \lambda_i + 2 \sum_{i=1}^{r'} \lambda_i \prod_{i=1}^{r} \delta_{\mu_1, \mu_i} \prod_{i=1}^{r'} \delta_{\mu_1, -\mu_i} \] (4.20)

Example 2 Let’s look at an example where the plumbed manifold given by the plumbing graph from figure 7a. The second cohomology group of this plumbed manifold is \( \mathbb{Z}_3 \). We can express \( \hat{Z}_{Q/\mathbb{Z}}^{Q/\mathbb{Z}} \) as cutting and gluing of states and operators as shown in figure 7b.

\[ \hat{Z}_{Q/\mathbb{Z}}^{Q/\mathbb{Z}} = q^{-\frac{1}{4}} (v^1 T^{-4} S) O(-1) (S T^{-3} v) (D(\lambda, \mu) S T^{-3} v) \] (4.21)

Where \( q^{-\frac{1}{4}} \) is the anomaly contribution. Using the expressions for \( v, v^1, O(-1), S, \) and \( T \) we can compute \( \hat{Z} \) and get,

\[ \hat{Z}_0 = 1 - q + q^6 - q^{11} + q^{13} - q^{20} + q^{35} - q^{46} + q^{50} - q^{63} + q^{88} + \cdots \]
\[ \hat{Z}_{\pm 1} = q^{\frac{1}{2}} (q^4 - q^{13} + q^{22} - q^{31} - q^{67} + q^{82} + \cdots) \] (4.22)

\(^5\)Here by \( d \) in \( f_{d, n} \) we denote the degree of the vertex. Recall \( f_{Q, n_v} \) only depends on degree of vertex \( v \).
Bockstein homomorphism of decorated TQFTs. The decorations of $\hat{Z}$ are the same as those of inverse Reidemeister-Milnor-Turaev torsion. Therefore, as in the case of inverse Reidemeister-Milnor-Turaev torsion, we expect that the Hilbert space that $\hat{Z}$-TQFT assigns to a torus to be decorated by $H^2(T^2, \mathbb{Z}) \cong H_0(T^2, \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}$, and graded by $H^1(T^2, \mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Z}) \cong (\mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Z})^2$ (or $H^1(T^2, \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}^2$). Since the surgery formula only computes $\hat{Z}$ for decorations $(0, b) \in \mathbb{Z}^{h_1(M_3)} \times \text{Tors}H_1(M_3)$ we don’t expect to see the $H_0(T^2, \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}$ decoration in $\mathcal{H}(T^2)$ from equation (4.11). On the other hand, we do expect to see decoration $b \in \text{Tors}H_1(M_3)$, coming from $H^1(T^2, \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}^2$ grading of the Hilbert space. However, as seen from examples 1, and 2, the decoration $b \in \text{Tors}H_1(M_3)$ is coming from the $(\mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z})^2$ grading of the Hilbert space. How do we understand this discrepancy? We claim that the $\mathcal{H}(T^2)$ from equation (4.11) is in fact Hilbert space associated to torus in $\hat{Z}^{\mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}}$-TQFT which under “Bockstein Homomorphism” maps to $\hat{Z}$-TQFT.

Associated with a short exact sequence of abelian groups

$$0 \to G_1 \to G_2 \to G_3 \to 0$$

(4.23)

there is a connecting homomorphism $Bk : H^i(M_3, G_3) \to H^{i+1}(M_3, G_1)$ called the Bockstein homomorphism. This Bockstein homomorphism induces a map between topological invariants decorated with $H^i(M_3, G_3)$ and topological invariants decorated with $H^{i+1}(M_3, G_1)$. For $\alpha \in H^i(M_3, G_3)$,

$$Z'_\alpha = Z_{Bk(\alpha)}. \quad (4.24)$$

In particular, given a topological invariant decorated with $H^2(M_3, \mathbb{Z})$, we get a topological invariant decorated with $H^1(M_3, \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z})$, under the “Bockstein homomorphism” associated with the following short exact sequence of abelian groups,

$$0 \to \mathbb{Z} \to \mathbb{Q} \to \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z} \to 0.$$

(4.25)

For plumbed manifolds, with plumbing graph $\Gamma$ and linking matrix $Q$, the cohomology group $H^1(M_3, \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z})$ is given by,

$$H^1(M_3, \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}) \cong (\mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z})^{h_1(\Gamma)} \times Q^{-1}Z^V/\mathbb{Z}^V.$$

(4.26)
Where $Q^{-1}Z^V/Z^V = \{ \alpha \in (Q/Z)^V | Q\alpha \in Z^V \}$. The Bockstein homomorphism $Bk : H^1(M_3, Q/Z) \rightarrow H^2(M_3, Z)$ takes $(Q/Z)^{b_1(V)}$ to $0 \in Z^{b_1(V)}$, and on $Q^{-1}Z^V$ its given as follows,

$$Bk : Q^{-1}Z^V/Z^V \rightarrow Z^V/QZ^V$$

$$\alpha \mapsto Q\alpha$$

Notice the image of $Bk$ is precisely the set of decorations we can get from the surgery formula (4.3). Thus from equation (4.7) we see that under Bockstein homomorphism, $\hat{Z}$ maps to $\hat{Z}^{Q/Z}(q)$,

$$\hat{Z}_{\hat{\beta}}^{Q/Z}(q) = \hat{Z}_{Bk(\beta)}(q) \quad (4.27)$$

For mapping tori $T^2 \times \varphi S^1$, with $\text{tr}\{\varphi\} \neq 2$, $H^1(T^2 \times \varphi S^1, Q/Z) \cong Q/Z \times (\varphi - I)^{-1}Z^2/Z^2$ and $H^2(T^2 \times \varphi S^1, Z) \cong Z \times Z^2/(\varphi - I)Z^2$, and under Bockstein homomorphism,

$$Bk(Q/Z \times (\varphi - I)^{-1}Z^2/Z^2) = \{0\} \times Z^2/(\varphi - I)Z^2 \subset Z \times Z^2/(\varphi - I)Z^2 \quad (4.28)$$

Therefore, the Bockstein homomorphism takes the $(Q/Z)^2$-graded Hilbert space associated to torus in $\hat{Z}^{Q/Z}$-TQFT to 0-decorated sector of $Z^2$-graded Hilbert space associated to torus in $\hat{Z}$-TQFT. Since the Bockstein homomorphism maps decorations to decorations, we expect the Hilbert space for each grading and decoration to remain the same. This suggests that the 0-decorated sector of Hilbert space associated to torus in $\hat{Z}$-TQFT is given by,

$$\mathcal{H}_2^0(T^2) = C[Z^2 \times Z^2]. \quad (4.29)$$

Or $\mathcal{H}_2^0(T^2) = C[Z \times Z]$. Where $0 \in Z \cong H^2(T^2, Z)$, and $(\ell, m) \in Z^2 \cong H^1(T^2, Z)$ represent the decorations, and grading of the Hilbert space respectively. This conjecture is based upon the assumption that the Bockstein homomorphism only talks to the $Z^2$ and $(Q/Z)^2$ grading. However, it is possible that the two $Z^2$s in $C[Z^2 \times Z^2]$ are identified due to some identifications. In that case the Hilbert space would just be $\mathcal{H}_2^0(T^2) = C[Z^2]$.

### 5 Other invariants from $\hat{Z}$

The $q$-series invariant, in various limits, is related to other three-manifold invariants. These relations have been studied in various different places in literature [7, 10, 21]. In this section, we summarise these conjectural relations and make comments on how the Hilbert spaces in the TQFTs that compute them are related.

$N_r$ invariants are three-manifold invariants associated with quantum groups at roots of unity [22–24]. They are decorated by $H^1(M_3, C/2Z)$. The relation between $\hat{Z}(q)$ and $N_r$ invariants was studied in [10]. To get the $N_r$ invariants from $\hat{Z}(q)$, we first take the Fourier transform of decorations and then take the $q \rightarrow e^{2\pi i}$ limit. This map depends on the value of $r \mod 4$. We can schematically express it as,

$$N_r(M_3, \omega) = \sum_{b \in H^2(M_3, Z)} c_{\omega, b}^{CGP} \lim_{q \rightarrow e^{2\pi i}} \hat{Z}_b(M_3, q) \quad (5.1)$$
Where $\omega \in H^1(M_3, \mathbb{C}/2\mathbb{Z})$ (for more details we refer to [10]). For mapping tori and with $r \equiv 1 \mod 4$,

$$N_r(M, \omega) = \frac{r}{2} T(M, [\omega]) e^{-\frac{\pi}{r} \mu(M, s)} \left(\frac{\text{Tor} H^1(M, \mathbb{Z})}{|\text{Tor} H^1(M, \mathbb{Z})|}\right) \times \sum_{a, f \in \mathbb{Z}^r/Q\mathbb{Z}^r} e^{-i\pi \omega(a)} e^{2\pi i k(a + f)} e^{2\pi i (\frac{r}{|a|} \text{lk}(a, a))} \tilde{Z}_0(q) | q \to e^{2\pi i} \right). \quad (5.2)$$

Where $T(M, [\omega])$ is the suitable version of the Reidemeister torsion, $\mu(M, s)$ is the mod 4 reduction of Rokhlin invariant and $s$ is a spin-structure.

The Hilbert space associated to torus in $N_r$-TQFT for non-integral decorations is given by $\mathbb{C}[H_r]$, where

$$H_r = \{- (r-1), -(r-3), \ldots, (r-1)\} \quad \text{if } r \equiv 1 \mod 2$$

$$H_r = \{1, 3, \ldots, (r-1)\} \quad \text{if } r \equiv 2 \mod 4. \quad (5.3)$$

In this basis the $S$ and $T$ matrices are given by

$$S_{\lambda_1, \mu_1, \lambda_2, \mu_2}^{k_1, k_2} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{q}} e^{-(k_1 + \lambda_1)(k_2 + \lambda_2) + \ldots \delta_{\lambda_1, \mu_1}} \delta_{\lambda_2, \mu_2} \quad (5.4)$$

$$T_{\lambda_1, \mu_1, \lambda_2, \mu_2}^{k_1, k_2} = \xi^\frac{1}{2} (k_1 + \lambda_1)^2 + \ldots \delta_{k_1, k_2} \delta_{\lambda_1, \lambda_2} \delta_{\mu_1, \mu_2} - \lambda_2. \quad (5.5)$$

Where $k_i \in H_r$, $\lambda_i, \mu_i \in \mathbb{C}/2\mathbb{Z}$, $\xi = e^{i\pi}$, and “...” are terms that depend only on $r$.

We expect that this Hilbert space can be obtained from Hilbert space associated with torus in $\hat{Z}_{Q/2\mathbb{Z}}$-TQFT or $\hat{Z}$-TQFT. In the limit $q^{\frac{1}{2}} = \xi e^{\frac{i\pi}{r}}$, $q^{\alpha \lambda}$ is same as $q^{\alpha(\lambda + 2r)}$, and hence the basis elements of $\mathbb{C}[Q^2]$ labeled by $(\lambda, \mu) \in Q^2$ should be identified with $(\lambda + 2n_\lambda r, \mu + 2n_\mu r)$ for all integers $n_\lambda, n_\mu$. Therefore, the Hilbert space $\mathbb{C}[Q^2]$ reduces to $\mathbb{C}[[Q/2\mathbb{Z}] \times (2\mathbb{Z}/2r\mathbb{Z})^2]$, and similarly $\mathbb{C}[\mathbb{Z}^4]$ should reduce to $\mathbb{C}[\mathbb{Z}^2 \times (2\mathbb{Z}/2r\mathbb{Z})^2]$. Now switching the gradings of $\mathbb{C}[\mathbb{Z}^2 \times (2\mathbb{Z}/2r\mathbb{Z})^2]$ from $\mathbb{Z}^2$ to $(\mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Z})$ using the “Fourier transform” we get $\mathbb{C}[(\mathbb{C}/2\mathbb{Z})^2 \times (2\mathbb{Z}/2r\mathbb{Z})^2]$. We suspect this can be further reduced to the above Hilbert space in the $N_r$-TQFT (last arrow in the schematic diagram below) and that Gauss sums would play an important role in the reduction giving the $r \mod 4$ dependence of the Hilbert space. Schematically, we can represent the relation between $\hat{Z}$-invariants and the $N_r$-invariants given in equation (5.2), as a set of operations given below.

$\mathbb{C}[\mathbb{Z}^4] \xrightarrow{\text{Fourier transform}} \mathbb{C}[(\mathbb{C}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z})^2] \xrightarrow{q^{\alpha \lambda} \sim q^\alpha (\lambda + 2r)} \mathbb{C}[(\mathbb{Z} \times 2\mathbb{Z}/2r\mathbb{Z})^2] \xrightarrow{\text{sum over decorations}} \mathbb{C}[[\mathbb{Z} \times 2\mathbb{Z}/2r\mathbb{Z}]].$

Similarly, appropriately summing over decorations of $\hat{Z}$ and taking the $q \to e^{\frac{2\pi i}{r}}$ limit as conjectured in [8, 10, 21] we get the WRT invariants. On the Hilbert space side taking the $q \to e^{\frac{2\pi i}{r}}$ limit, $\mathbb{C}[\mathbb{Z}^4]$ reduces to $\mathbb{C}[\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/k\mathbb{Z}]$ and upon summing over decorations it further reduces to $\mathbb{C}[\mathbb{Z}^2 \times \mathbb{Z}/k\mathbb{Z}]$.

Without taking the “Fourier transform” of decorations or summing over them, but taking the $q \to 1$ limit of $\hat{Z}_b(q)$, we get the inverse Reidemeister-Milnor-Turaev torsion $\tau_b^{-1}$. Therefore, the Hilbert space associated torus in $\hat{Z}$-TQFT should roughly be the same as the one in $\tau^{-1}$-TQFT. However, some states might get identified with each other in the
$q \to 1$ limit. For example, the 0-decorated sector in $\tau^{-1}$-TQFT is given by $\mathcal{H}^0_{\ell,m} = \mathbb{C}$. However, as conjectured in the previous section, the 0-decorated sector of Hilbert space associated to torus in $\hat{Z}$-TQFT is given by $\mathcal{H}^0_{\ell,m} = \mathbb{C}[Z^2]$. We suspect that in the $q \to 1$ limit, $\mathbb{C}[Z^2]$ in $\hat{Z}$-TQFT reduces to $\mathbb{C}$ in $\tau^{-1}$-TQFT, as it reduced to $\mathbb{C}[Z^2/2\pi]$ in $N_r$-TQFT. Just as in the 0-decorated $\mathcal{H}^0_{\ell,m} = \mathbb{C}$ is lifted to $\mathcal{H}^0_{\ell,m} = \mathbb{C}[Z^2]$, the $n$-decorated sector of the $\tau^{-1}$-TQFT Hilbert space $\mathcal{H}^0_{\ell,m} = \mathcal{H}^n_{(2,2)}$ gets lifted to $\mathcal{H}^0_{\ell,m} = \mathcal{H}^n_{(2,2)} \otimes \mathbb{C}[Z^2]$. Where $\mathcal{H}^n_{(2,2)}$ is the $n$-particle subspace of $\mathcal{H}_{(2,2)}$.

Using this intuition, we conjecture that the Hilbert space associated with torus in $\hat{Z}$-TQFT is given by,

$$\mathcal{H}_2(T^2) = \mathcal{H}_{(2,2)} \otimes \mathbb{C}[Z^2 \times Z^2].$$

(5.6)

The $H^2(T^2, \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}$ decoration comes from the particle number grading of $\mathcal{H}_{(2,2)}$ while the $H^1(T^2, \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}^2$ grading comes from the $\mathbb{Z}^2$ grading of $\mathbb{C}[Z^2 \times Z^2]$. Thinking of $\hat{Z}$-TQFT as SL(2, C) Chern-Simons theory, we could interpret the second $\mathbb{Z}^2$ as states created by inserting Wilson lines in solid tori, now taking values in all of $\mathbb{Z}$ as the level is not quantized.

This intuitive understanding of Hilbert space associated with torus leads us to the conjecture that the Hilbert space associated with genus $g$ surface $\Sigma_g$ in the $\hat{Z}$-TQFT is given by

$$\mathcal{H}_2(\Sigma_g) = \mathcal{H}_{(2g,2)} \otimes \mathbb{C}[Z^{2g} \times Z^{2g}].$$

(5.7)

We note that it is possible that the two $\mathbb{Z}^{2g}$s in $\mathbb{C}[Z^{2g} \times Z^{2g}]$ are identified due to some identifications. In that case the Hilbert space would just be $\mathcal{H}_{(2g,2)} \otimes \mathbb{C}[Z^{2g}]$. We suspect that the recent progress towards finding a fully general mathematical definition of $\hat{Z}$ from the theory of quantum groups [25, 26] would provide insights into the validity of the above conjecture.

Acknowledgments

We are grateful to Sergei Gukov for his guidance through the course of this project. We would also like to thank Sunghyuk Park, and Yixin Xu for insightful conversations during various stages of the project. This work is supported by the Walter Burke Institute for Theoretical Physics, the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Science, Office of High Energy Physics, under Award No. DE-SC0011632, and the National Science Foundation under Grant No. NSF DMS 1664227.

A Spin and Spin$^c$ structures

The group Spin$(n)$ is the double cover of the special orthogonal group SO$(n)$ given by the following short exact sequence,

$$1 \to \mathbb{Z}_2 \to \text{Spin}(n) \to \text{SO}(n) \to 1.$$  

(A.1)

A Spin structure on an oriented $n$-dimensional manifold is a lift of the structure group of its tangent bundle from SO$(n)$ to Spin$(n)$. The group Spin$^c(n)$ is defined by the following short exact sequence

$$1 \to U(1) \to \text{Spin}^c(n) \to \text{SO}(n) \to 1.$$  

(A.2)
Equivalently we can define it as
\[
\text{Spin}^c(n) = \frac{\text{Spin}(n) \times U(1)}{\mathbb{Z}_2}.
\] (A.3)

Where \(\mathbb{Z}_2 \subset \text{Spin}(n) \times U(1)\) is given by \((1,1), (-1,-1)\). A Spin\(^c\) structure on an oriented \(n\)-dimensional manifold is a lift of the structure group of its tangent bundle from \(\text{SO}(n)\) to \(\text{Spin}^c(n)\).

For three-manifolds the space of Spin\(^c\) structures on it, \(\text{Spin}^c(M_3)\), is a \(H^2(M_3)\)-torsor. Suppose \(M_3\) is a three-manifold obtained by integral surgery on a framed oriented link \(L\) in \(S^3\) and suppose \(Q\) is a \(V \times V\) linking matrix of \(L\). Then we can express the cohomology group \(H^2(M_3)\) and the set of Spin\(^c\) structures on \(M_3\), \(\text{Spin}^c(M_3)\), as follows,
\[
H^2(M_3) \cong \mathbb{Z}^V / Q\mathbb{Z}^V, \quad \text{(A.4)}
\]
\[
\text{Spin}^c(M_3) \cong \{ K \in \mathbb{Z}^V / 2Q\mathbb{Z}^V \mid K_i = Q_{ii} \mod 2 \}. \quad \text{(A.5)}
\]

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