ORBIFOLD VERTEX OPERATOR ALGEBRAS AND
THE POSITIVITY CONDITION

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Für Heike, in Erinnerung.

Abstract. In this note we show that the irreducible twisted modules of a holomorphic, $C_2$-cofinite vertex operator algebra $V$ have $L_0$-weights at least as large as the smallest $L_0$-weight of $V$. Hence, if $V$ is of CFT-type, then the twisted $V$-modules are almost strictly positively graded. This in turn implies that the fixed-point vertex operator subalgebra $V^G$ for a finite, solvable group of automorphisms of $V$ almost satisfies the positivity condition. These and some further results are obtained by a careful analysis of Dong, Li and Mason’s twisted modular invariance.

Contents

Introduction 1
1. Conjecture and Main Result 2
2. Proof 3
3. Further Results 4
4. Examples 5
5. Quantum Dimensions and Simple Currents 7
References 8

Introduction

This note is concerned with vertex operator algebras and their representation theory. For an introduction to these topics we refer the reader to [FLMS88, FHL93, LL04]. Just note that for the definition of twisted modules we follow the modern sign convention (see, e.g. [DLM00] as opposed to [Li96]).

Let $V$ be a vertex operator algebra. Recall that $V$ has a $\mathbb{Z}$-grading (by $L_0$-eigenvalues) $V = \bigoplus_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} V_k$ with $\dim(V_k) < \infty$ for all $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $\dim(V_k) = 0$ for $k \ll 0$. The smallest $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $\dim(V_k) > 0$ is called the conformal weight of $V$ and denoted by $\rho(V)$.

Similarly, the $L_0$-grading of an irreducible $V$-module $W$ takes values in $\rho(W) + \mathbb{Z} \geq 0$ for some conformal weight $\rho(W) \in \mathbb{C}$ with $\dim(W_{\rho(W)}) > 0$.

Often, vertex operator algebras are assumed to be of CFT-type, in which case the conformal weight $\rho(V) = 0$ and $\dim(V_0) = 1$. Since the definition of a vertex operator algebra includes a non-zero vacuum vector $1 \in V_0$, this means that in a vertex operator algebra of CFT-type the vacuum vector is the up to scalar unique vector of smallest $L_0$-eigenvalue.

Naturally extending this property to all the modules of $V$ we arrive at the following definition.

Definition (Positivity Condition). Let $V$ be a simple vertex operator algebra. $V$ is said to satisfy the positivity condition if for all irreducible $V$-modules $W$, $\rho(W) \in \mathbb{R} > 0$ if $W \not\cong V$ and $\rho(V) = 0$.

The positivity condition is a necessary assumption for some important results concerning the relationship between simple currents, quantum dimensions and the $S$-matrix (see [DJX13], e.g. Proposition 4.17) and vertex operator algebras with group-like fusion, i.e. vertex operator algebras whose irreducible modules are all simple currents (see Section 2.2 in [Mö16] and Section 3 in [EMS15]). Some of these aspects will be briefly discussed in Section 5.

1 Indeed, if $V$ is rational and of CFT-type, then the positivity condition implies that the vacuum vector is the up to scalar unique vector of smallest $L_0$-eigenvalue in all $V$-modules.
In this text we study the positivity condition for certain fixed-point vertex operator subalgebras, i.e. vertex operator algebras $V^G$ where $V$ is a holomorphic vertex operator algebra and $G$ a finite group of automorphisms of $V$.

As always, when making non-trivial statements about abstract vertex operator algebras it is necessary to restrict to a subclass of suitably regular vertex operator algebras. We follow [DM04] and call a vertex algebra $V$ *strongly rational* if it is rational (as defined in [DLM97], for example), $C_2$-cofinite, self-contragredient (or self-dual) and of CFT-type. A vertex operator algebra $V$ is called *holomorphic* if it is rational and the only irreducible $V$-module is $V$ itself (implying that $V$ is simple and self-contragredient).

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## 1. Conjecture and Main Result

Let $V$ be a strongly rational, holomorphic vertex operator algebra (which implies by the modular invariance result of [Zhu96] that the central charge $c$ of $V$ is in $8\mathbb{Z}_{>0}$). It is shown in [DLM04] that for any automorphism $g$ of $V$ of finite order $n \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$, $V$ possesses an up to isomorphism unique irreducible $g$-twisted $V$-module, denoted by $V(g)$. Note that $V(\text{id}) \cong V$. Moreover, the conformal weight $\rho(V(g))$ of $V(g)$ is rational. In fact, it is shown in [EMS15, Mö16] that $\rho(V(g)) = \frac{1}{n} \mathbb{Z}$. The $L_0$-eigenvalues of $V(g)$ lie in $\rho(V(g)) + \frac{1}{n} \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$.

We hypothesise that the possible values of $\rho(V(g))$ can be further constrained (see also Conjecture 2.2 for a more general statement):

**Conjecture 1.1 (Main Conjecture).** Let $V$ be a strongly rational, holomorphic vertex operator algebra and $g \neq \text{id}$ an automorphism of $V$ of finite order. Then $\rho(V(g)) > 0$.

This is closely related to the positivity condition for fixed-point vertex operator subalgebras.

**Proposition 1.2.** Let $V$ be a strongly rational, holomorphic vertex operator algebra such that Conjecture 1.1 is satisfied for $V$. Let $G \leq \text{Aut}(V)$ be a finite, solvable group of automorphisms of $V$. Then $V^G$ satisfies the positivity condition.

The proof of this statement is immediate with the following result:

**Proposition 1.3.** Let $V$ be a simple, strongly rational vertex operator algebra and $G$ a finite, solvable group of automorphisms of $V$. Then every irreducible $V^G$-module appears as a $V^G$-submodule of the $g$-twisted $V$-module for some $g \in G$.

**Proof.** The idea of the proof was first written down by Miyamoto (see proof of Lemma 3 in [Miy10], where only the case of cyclic $G$ is covered). For the stated generality we need Theorem 3.3 in [DRX15]. Its hypotheses (see also Remark 3.4 in [DRX15]) are satisfied since $V^G$ is again strongly rational by [Miy15, CM16]. For this, the group $G$ has to be solvable.

**Proof of Proposition 1.2.** Let $W$ be an irreducible $V^G$-module. If $W$ appears as a submodule of $V(g)$ for some non-trivial $g \in G$, then $\rho(W) > 0$. So, let $W$ be an irreducible $V^G$-submodule of $V$. Since any automorphism $g \in \text{Aut}(V)$ by definition fixes the vacuum vector $1$, $\rho(V(G)) = 0$ (note that $V^G$ is again simple, i.e. irreducible) but no other irreducible $V^G$-submodule $W$ of $V$ can contain a vector of weight 0 because $V_0 = \mathbb{C}1$ since $V$ is of CFT-type.

In the following we will prove a statement that is only slightly weaker than Conjecture 1.1. We are not aware of any counterexamples to the conjecture but would be interested in learning of such. Section 5 explores some of the consequences of Conjecture 1.1 not being satisfied.

**Theorem 1.4 (Main Result).** Let $V$ be a strongly rational, holomorphic vertex operator algebra and $g$ an automorphism of $V$ of finite order. Then $\rho(V(g)) \geq 0$ and $\dim(V(g)_0) = 1$ if $\rho(V(g)) = 0$.

As a corollary we can slightly strengthen the statement of Theorem 5.11 in [EMS15].
Corollary 1.5. Let $V$ be a strongly rational, holomorphic vertex operator algebra and $g$ an automorphism of $V$ of finite order $n \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$. Then

$$\rho(V(g)) \in \frac{1}{n^2} \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}. $$

This is a statement in the spirit of Theorems 1.2 (ii) and 1.6 (i) in [DLM00] but considerably stronger.

2. Proof

In this section we prove Theorem 1.4, the main result of this text. In fact, we show a slightly stronger statement, only requiring the vertex operator algebra $V$ to be holomorphic and $C_2$-cofinite. This amounts to dropping the requirement that $V$ be of CFT-type, which is included in strong rationality.

We recall important results from Dong, Li and Mason’s twisted modular invariance paper [DLM00]. Let $V$ be a holomorphic, $C_2$-cofinite vertex operator algebra and let $g \in \text{Aut}(V)$ be of finite order $n \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$. Then there is an up to isomorphism unique irreducible $g$-twisted $V$-module $V(g)$ and the formal power series

$$Z_{id,g}(q) := \text{tr}_V g q^{L_0 - c/24} = q^{\rho(V) - c/24} \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}} \text{tr}_{V(g)^{\langle k \rangle}} g q^k $$

and

$$Z_{g,id}(q) := \text{tr}_{V(g)} g q^{L_0 - c/24} = q^{\rho(V(g)) - c/24} \sum_{k \in \frac{1}{n} \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}} \dim(V(g)_{\rho(V(g))+k}) q^k, $$

called twisted trace functions, converge to holomorphic functions in $\tau$ on the upper half-plane $\mathbb{H}$ upon identifying $q = e^{2\pi i \tau}$, which we shall always do in the following. Moreover, the $S$-transformation of $Z_{id,g}$ is proportional to $Z_{g,id}$, i.e.

$$Z_{id,g}(S \tau) = \lambda_{id,g} Z_{g,id}(\tau) $$

for some non-zero $\lambda_{id,g} \in \mathbb{C}$ where $S \tau = -1/\tau$. Here $S = (\begin{smallmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{smallmatrix})$ and we let $\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$ act on $\mathbb{H}$ via the Möbius transformation. Note that both the central charge $c$ and the conformal weight $\rho(V(g))$ are rational [DLM00].

Theorem 2.1. Let $V$ be a holomorphic, $C_2$-cofinite vertex operator algebra and $g$ an automorphism of $V$ of finite order. Then $\rho(V(g)) \geq \rho(V)$ and

$$|\lambda_{id,g}| \dim(V(g)_{\rho(V(g)}) \leq \dim(V_{\rho(V)})$$

if $\rho(V(g)) = \rho(V)$.

Proof. We study equation (1), specialised to $\tau = it$ for $t \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$

$$e^{2\pi i (c/24 - \rho(V))} t \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}} \text{tr}_{V(g)^{\langle k \rangle}} g e^{-2\pi k/t} = \lambda_{id,g} e^{2\pi i (c/24 - \rho(V(g)))} \sum_{k \in \frac{1}{n} \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}} \dim(V(g)_{\rho(V(g))+k}) e^{-2\pi tk}. $$

(2)

Rearranging some factors we arrive at

$$l_g(t) = r_g(t) $$

with the functions $l_g, r_g : \mathbb{R}_{>0} \to \mathbb{R}_{>0}$ defined as

$$l_g(t) := \frac{1}{\lambda_{id,g}} e^{2\pi i (c/24 - \rho(V)) (1/t - t)} \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}} \text{tr}_{V(g)^{\langle k \rangle}} g e^{-2\pi k/t},$$

$$r_g(t) := e^{2\pi i (\rho(V) - \rho(V(g)))} \sum_{k \in \frac{1}{n} \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}} \dim(V(g)_{\rho(V(g))+k}) e^{-2\pi tk}. $$

It is obvious that $r_g$ and hence $l_g$ takes values in $\mathbb{R}_{>0}$. 


We observe that
\[ l_g(t) = |l_g(t)| \leq \frac{1}{|\lambda_{id,g}|} e^{2\pi(c/24-\rho(V))(1/t-t)} \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}} \dim(V_{\rho(V)+k}) e^{-2\pi k/t} \]
(3)
\[ \leq \frac{1}{|\lambda_{id,g}|} e^{2\pi(c/24-\rho(V))(1/t-t)} \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}} \dim(V_{\rho(V)+k}) e^{-2\pi k/t} \]
\[ = \frac{\lambda_{id,\bar{V}}}{|\lambda_{id,g}|} l_{id}(t) \]
where we used that for a finite-order automorphism \( g \) on a \( \mathbb{C} \)-vector space of dimension \( m \), \( |\text{tr}(g)| = |\sum_{i=1}^m \mu_i| \leq \sum_{i=1}^m |\mu_i| = \sum_{i=1}^m 1 = m \) where the \( \mu_i \) are the eigenvalues of \( g \) counted with algebraic multiplicities.

Furthermore, observe that
\[ \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}} \dim(V_{\rho(V)+k}) e^{-2\pi tk} \xrightarrow{t \to \infty} \dim(V_{\rho(V)}), \]
which is non-zero by the definition of the conformal weight. This follows for example from the monotone convergence theorem for non-increasing sequences of functions applied to the counting measure on \( \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0} \). Hence
\[ r_g(t) \xrightarrow{t \to \infty} \begin{cases} \infty & \text{if } \rho(V(g)) < \rho(V), \\ \dim(V_{\rho(V)}) & \text{if } \rho(V(g)) = \rho(V), \\ 0 & \text{if } \rho(V(g)) > \rho(V), \end{cases} \]
which in the special case of \( g = \text{id} \) becomes
\[ r_{id}(t) \xrightarrow{t \to \infty} \dim(V_{\rho(V)}). \]
Using equation (3) and comparing \( l_g(t) = r_g(t) \) with \( l_{id}(t) = r_{id}(t) \) in the limit of \( t \to \infty \) it is apparent that \( \rho(V(g)) \geq \rho(V) \) and
\[ \dim(V_{\rho(V)}) \leq \frac{\lambda_{id,\bar{V}}}{|\lambda_{id,g}|} \dim(V_{\rho(V)}) \]
if \( \rho(V(g)) = \rho(V) \).

Finally, it follows from equation (1) for \( g = \text{id} \) (this is of course just an instance of Zhu’s untwisted modular invariance [Zhu96] and \( S^2, \tau = \tau \) that \( \lambda_{id,\bar{V}}^2 = 1 \). Moreover, equation (2) for \( g = \text{id} \) implies \( \lambda_{id,\bar{V}} \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \) so that \( \lambda_{id,\bar{V}} = 1 \), which completes the proof. \( \square \)

**Proof of Theorem 3.3.** If \( V \) is of CFT-type, then \( \rho(V) = 0 \) and \( \dim(V_0) = 1 \). Moreover, it is shown in Proposition 5.5 of [EMS13] (see also Lemma 1.11.2 in [Mö16] and Section 3 below) that \( \lambda_{id,g} = 1 \). This proves the assertion. \( \square \)

With Theorem 2.1 in mind, it seems natural to generalise Conjecture 1.2 to the situation where CFT-type is not assumed:

**Conjecture 2.2.** Let \( V \) be a holomorphic, \( C_2 \)-cofinite vertex operator algebra and \( g \neq \text{id} \) an automorphism of \( V \) of finite order. Then \( \rho(V(g)) > \rho(V) \).

3. **FURTHER RESULTS**

Studying equation (2) in the limit \( t \to 0 \) rather than \( t \to \infty \) we obtain:

**Theorem 3.1.** Let \( V \) be a holomorphic, \( C_2 \)-cofinite vertex operator algebra and \( g \) an automorphism of \( V \) of finite order. Then
\[ \frac{1}{\lambda_{id,g}} \text{tr}_{\rho(V)+k} g \in \mathbb{R} \]
for all \( k \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0} \) and
\[ \frac{1}{\lambda_{id,g}} \text{tr}_{\rho(V)} g \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}. \]

If \( V \) is in addition of CFT-type, then we obtain:
Corollary 3.2. Let $V$ be a strongly rational, holomorphic vertex operator algebra and $g$ an automorphism of $V$ of finite order. Then

$$\text{tr}_{V_g} g \in \mathbb{R}$$

for all $k \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ and

$$\lambda_{id,g} \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}.$$

The second part of this statement is proved in Proposition 5.5 of [BDM15] (see also Lemma 1.11.2 in [M016]) and used to show that in fact $\lambda_{id,g} = 1$.

Proof. If $V$ is of CFT-type, then $\rho(V) = 0$ and $V_0 = \mathbb{C}$. Since any automorphism $g$ fixes the vacuum vector $1$ by definition, $\text{tr}_{V_0} g = 1$. This proves the second assertion and consequently also the first one. □

Proof of Theorem 3.1. We again study equation (2) but now distribute the factors slightly differently to obtain

$$L_g(t) = R_g(t)$$

with the functions $L_g, R_g : \mathbb{R}_{>0} \to \mathbb{R}_{>0}$ defined as

$$L_g(t) := \frac{1}{\lambda_{id,g}} \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}} \text{tr}_{V_{\rho(V)+k}} g e^{-2\pi k/t},$$

$$R_g(t) := e^{2\pi(c/24)(t-1/t)} e^{2\pi \rho(V)/t} e^{-2\pi \rho(V_0)} \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}} \dim(V(g)_{\rho(V)+k}) e^{-2\pi k/t}.$$

Note that $L_g$ takes values in $\mathbb{R}_{>0}$ since $R_g$ does.

Noting again that $|\text{tr}_{V_{\rho(V)+k}} g| \leq \dim(V_{\rho(V)+k})$ and that

$$\sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}} \dim(V_{\rho(V)+k}) e^{-2\pi k/t}$$

converges, we may apply the dominated convergence theorem for series and interchange the infinite summation with the process of taking the limit $t \to 0$. This shows that

$$L_g(t) \xrightarrow{t \to 0} \frac{1}{\lambda_{id,g}} \text{tr}_{V_{\rho(V)}} g.$$

This has to be in $\mathbb{R}_{>0}$ since $R_g(t)$ is for all $t$ and $\mathbb{R}_{>0}$ is closed in $\mathbb{C}$, which proves the second assertion.

Now subtract the summand for $k = 0$ from $L_g(t)$ (which is in $\mathbb{R}$ as we just showed) and multiply by $e^{2\pi/t}$ to see in the limit $t \to 0$ that the summand for $k = 1$ is in $\mathbb{R}$. Repeating this process for all $k \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ proves the first assertion. □

4. Examples

In this section we study the validity of Conjecture [1] for examples of holomorphic vertex operator algebras with some of their twisted modules explicitly known.

4.1. Permutation Orbifolds. Let $V$ be a vertex operator algebra of central charge $c$. Then an element $g$ of the symmetric group $S_k$ acts in the obvious way on the tensor-product vertex operator algebra $V^\otimes k$ of central charge $kc$ for $k \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$. In [BDM02] the authors describe the $g$-twisted $V^\otimes k$-modules for all $g \in S_k$.

We describe the special case of holomorphic $V$. In this case, also $V^\otimes k$ is holomorphic, $g$-rational and there is an up to isomorphism unique irreducible $g$-twisted $V^\otimes k$-module $V^\otimes k(g)$ for all $g \in S_k$ (see Theorem 6.4 in [BDM02]).

Let us fix an automorphism $g \in S_k$ of order $n$ and of cycle shape $\sum_{t|n} b_t$ with $b_t \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$, i.e. $g$ consists of $b_t$ cycles of length $t$ for each $t | n$. Note that $\sum_{t|n} b_t = k$. Now suppose that $V$ has some conformal weight $\rho(V) \in \mathbb{Z}_{\leq 0}$. Then the conformal weight of the vertex operator algebra $V^\otimes k$ is

$$\rho(V^\otimes k) = kp(V) = \rho(V) \sum_{t|n} t b_t.$$
On the other hand, from the proof of Theorem 3.9 in [BDM02] we know that the conformal weight of the unique irreducible $g$-twisted $V^{\otimes k}$-module $V^{\otimes k}(g)$ is

$$
\rho(V^{\otimes k}(g)) = \rho(V) \sum_{t \mid n} \frac{b_t}{7} + \frac{c}{24} \sum_{t \mid n} b_t \left( t - \frac{1}{7} \right) 
$$

$$
= \rho(V^{\otimes k}) + \left( \frac{c}{24} - \rho(V) \right) \sum_{t \mid n} b_t \left( t - \frac{1}{7} \right).
$$

If $V$ is also $C_2$-cofinite, then Zhu’s modular invariance implies that the character of $V$

$$
\text{ch}_V(\tau) = Z_{id, id}(\tau) = \text{tr}_V q^{L_0-c/24} = q^{\rho(V)-c/24} \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}} \dim(V_{\rho(V)+k}) q^k
$$
is a modular form for $\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$ of weight 0 and possibly some character which is holomorphic on $\mathbb{H}$. The valence formula implies that $\text{ch}_V(\tau)$ has a pole at the cusp $i\infty$, which means that $c/24 > \rho(V)$. (For a proof of this well-known fact see, e.g. Proposition 1.4.10 in [Mo16] where only the special case of $V$ of CFT-type is treated.) Clearly, this shows that

$$
\rho(V^{\otimes k}(g)) > \rho(V^{\otimes k})
$$

for $g \neq \text{id}$. This proves:

**Proposition 4.1.** The assertion of Conjecture [2.2] (and hence Conjecture [1.1]) holds for holomorphic, $C_2$-cofinite vertex operator algebras of the form $V^{\otimes k}$ and automorphisms in $S_n \leq \text{Aut}(V^{\otimes k})$.

4.2. **Lattice Vertex Operator Algebras.** Further examples of vertex operator algebras of which many twisted modules and their conformal weights are explicitly known are lattice vertex operator algebras [FLMSS, Don93].

Let $L$ be an even, positive-definite lattice, i.e. a free abelian group $L$ of finite rank $\text{rk}(L)$ equipped with a positive-definite, symmetric bilinear form $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle : L \times L \to \mathbb{Z}$ such that the norm $\langle \alpha, \alpha \rangle / 2 \in \mathbb{Z}$ for all $\alpha \in L$. Let $L_\mathbb{C} = L \otimes \mathbb{C} \mathbb{C}$ denote the complexification of the lattice $L$.

The lattice vertex operator algebra $V_L$ associated with $L$ is simple, strongly rational and has central charge $c = \text{rk}(L)$. Its irreducible modules are indexed by the discriminant form $L'/L$. Hence, if $L$ is unimodular, i.e. if $L' = L$, then $V_L$ is holomorphic.

Let $O(L)$ denote the group of automorphisms (or isometries) of the lattice $L$. The construction of $V_L$ involves a choice of group 2-cocycle $\varepsilon : L \times L \to \{ \pm 1 \}$. An automorphism $\nu \in O(L)$ and a function $\eta : L \to \{ \pm 1 \}$ satisfying

$$
\eta(\alpha)\eta(\beta)/\eta(\alpha + \beta) = \varepsilon(\alpha, \beta)/\varepsilon(\nu\alpha, \nu\beta)
$$
define an automorphism $\hat{\nu} \in O(\hat{L})$ and the automorphisms obtained in this way form the subgroup $O(\hat{L}) \leq \text{Aut}(V_L)$ (see, e.g. [FLMSS, Bor92]). We call $\hat{\nu}$ a standard lift if the restriction of $\eta$ to the fixed-point sublattice $L' \subseteq L$ is trivial. All standard lifts of $\nu$ are conjugate in $\text{Aut}(V_L)$ (see [EMS13], Proposition 7.1). Let $\hat{\nu}$ be a standard lift of $\nu$ and suppose that $\nu$ has order $m$. Then if $m$ is odd or if $m$ is even and $(\alpha, \nu^m/2\alpha)$ is even for all $\alpha \in L$, the order of $\hat{\nu}$ is also $m$ and otherwise the order of $\hat{\nu}$ is $2m$, in which case we say $\nu$ exhibits order doubling.

For any vertex operator algebra $V$ of CFT-type $K := \{ \{e^{\alpha v} \mid v \in V_1 \} \}$ defines a subgroup of $\text{Aut}(V)$, called the inner automorphism group. Note that since $V$ is of CFT-type, $\nu\omega = 0$ for all $v \in V_1$ so that the inner automorphisms preserve the Virasoro vector $\omega$, which is included in the definition of a vertex operator algebra automorphism.

In general, not much is known about the structure of the automorphism group $\text{Aut}(V)$ of a vertex operator algebra $V$. However, for lattice vertex operator algebras $V_L$ it was show that

$$
\text{Aut}(V_L) = K \cdot O(\hat{L}),
$$

$K$ is a normal subgroup of $\text{Aut}(V_L)$ and $\text{Aut}(V_L)/K$ is isomorphic to a quotient group of $O(L)$ (see Theorem 2.1 in [DN99]).

The irreducible $\hat{\nu}$-twisted modules of a lattice vertex operator algebra $V_L$ for standard lifts $\hat{\nu} \in O(\hat{L})$ are described in [DL96, BK04] but the generalisation to non-standard lifts is not difficult (see, e.g. Theorem 7.6 in [EMS13]). Combining these results with Section 5 of [Le98] we can explicitly describe the $g$-twisted $V_L$-modules for all automorphisms

$$
g \in K_0 \cdot O(\hat{L})$$
with the abelian subgroup

\[ K_0 := \{ e^{(2\pi i)h} | h \in L \otimes \mathbb{Z} \} \subseteq K. \]

Note that the elements of \( K_0 \) and \( O(\hat{L}) \) have finite order.

For a lattice vertex operator algebra \( V_l \) we can naturally identify the complexified lattice \( L_C := L \otimes \mathbb{C} \) with \( \mathfrak{h} := \{ h(-1) \otimes e_0 | h \in L \} \subseteq (V_l)_1 \). Now let \( g = \sigma_h \hat{\nu} \) with \( \sigma_h := e^{-2\pi i h} \) for some \( h \in L \otimes \mathbb{Q} \) and \( \hat{\nu} \) some lift of \( \nu \in O(L) \). For simplicity we assume that \( \hat{\nu} \) is a standard lift. We may always do so since the non-standardness of \( \hat{\nu} \) can be absorbed into \( \sigma_h \). Moreover, we may assume that \( h \in \pi_\nu(L_C) \) were \( \pi_\nu = \frac{1}{m} \sum m^{-1} b^i \) is the projection of \( L_C \) onto the elements of \( L_C \) fixed by \( \nu \). Indeed, it is shown in Lemma 7.5 of [EMSI17] that \( \sigma_g \hat{\nu} \) is conjugate to \( \sigma_{\pi_\nu(h)} \hat{\nu} \). Since \( h \in \pi_\nu(L_C) \), \( \sigma_h \) and \( \hat{\nu} \) commute, allowing us to apply the results in [L396] to \( g = \sigma_h \hat{\nu} \).

In the following let \( L \) be unimodular. Then \( V_L \) is holomorphic and there is a unique \( g \)-twisted \( V_L \)-module \( V_L(g) \) for each \( g = \sigma_h \hat{\nu} \). Assume that \( \nu \) is of order \( m \) and has cycle shape \( \sum_{t|m} b^i \) with \( b_i \in \mathbb{Z} \), i.e. the extension of \( \nu \) to \( L_C \) has characteristic polynomial \( \prod_{t|m} (x^t - 1)^{b_i} \). Note that \( \sum_{t|m} b^i = \text{rk}(L) = c \).

Then the conformal weight of \( V_L(\hat{\nu}) \) is given by

\[ \rho(V_L(\hat{\nu})) = \frac{1}{24} \sum_{t|m} b^i \left( t - \frac{1}{l} \right) + \min_{\alpha \in \pi_\nu(L) + h} (\alpha, \alpha)/2. \]

The second term is the norm of a shortest vector in the lattice coset \( \pi_\nu(L) + h \). Also, \( \sum_{t|m} b^i \left( t - \frac{1}{l} \right) > 0 \) for \( \nu \neq \text{id} \).

It is clear that \( \rho(V_L(\hat{\nu})) \geq 0 \) and if \( \rho(V_L(\hat{\nu})) = 0 \), then \( \nu = \text{id} \) and \( h \in L \), which entails \( g = \sigma_h = \text{id} \) since \( L = L' \). Hence we have proved:

**Proposition 4.2.** The assertion of Conjecture [1.1] holds for strongly rational, holomorphic vertex operator algebras of the form \( V_L \), for an even, unimodular, positive-definite lattice \( L \) and automorphisms in \( K_0 \cdot O(\hat{L}) \leq \text{Aut}(V_L) \).

5. Quantum Dimensions and Simple Currents

In this section we study the relationship between quantum dimensions and Conjecture [1.1] and Theorem [1.3]. The case in which Conjecture [1.1] holds will differ drastically from the case where only Theorem [1.3] is true.

Recall that given a vertex operator algebra \( V \) and a \( V \)-module \( W \) and assuming that the characters \( ch_\tau(V) \) and \( ch_\tau(W) \) are well-defined functions on the upper half-plane \( \mathbb{H} \) (e.g. if \( V \) is rational and \( C_2 \)-cofinite and \( W \) is an irreducible \( V \)-module) the quantum dimension \( qdim_\tau(W) \) of \( W \) is defined as the limit

\[ qdim_\tau(W) := \lim_{y \to 0^+} \frac{ch_\tau_{-1}(iy)}{ch_\tau_1(iy)} \]

if it exists.

Now suppose that \( V \) is a strongly rational, holomorphic vertex operator algebra and \( g \) an automorphism of \( V \) of finite order. It is shown in Proposition 5.6 in [EMSI15] (see also Lemma 4.5.3 in [Mö16] and Proposition 5.4 in [DRX15]) that all irreducible \( V^g \)-modules are simple currents\(^2\). For this result the positivity condition for \( V^g \) is not needed.

5.1. Positivity Condition. If we additionally assume that Conjecture [1.1] holds for \( V \), then by Proposition [1.2] \( V^g \) satisfies the positivity condition. This allows us to apply Proposition 4.17 in [DJX13], which states that an irreducible \( V_g \)-module is a simple current if and only if \( qdim_{V^g}(W) = 1 \). Hence, \( qdim_{V^g}(W) = 1 \) for all irreducible \( V^g \)-modules \( W \).

5.2. No Positivity Condition. We contrast this to the situation where only Theorem [1.3] but not necessarily Conjecture [1.1] holds. Still all irreducible \( V^g \)-modules are simple currents but the quantum dimensions might not all be 1.

In the following, let us study the simplest possible case where \( g \) is an automorphism of order \( n = 2 \) of the strongly rational, holomorphic vertex operator algebra \( V \). In order to contradict Conjecture [1.1] we have to assume that \( \rho(V(g)) = 0 \), in which case \( \text{dim}(V(g)_0) = 1 \). There are up to isomorphism exactly four irreducible \( V^g \)-modules, namely \( W^{(0,0)} = V^g \), the eigenspace in \( V \) of \( g \) corresponding to the

\(^2\)Recall that a module \( U \) of a rational vertex operator algebra \( V \) is called simple current if the fusion product \( U \otimes_V W \) is irreducible for every irreducible \( V \)-module \( W \).
eigenvalue 1, $W_{(0,1)}$, the one corresponding to the eigenvalue $-1$, $W_{(1,0)} = V(g)_{2}$, the part of $V(g)$ with $L_{0}$-eigenvalues in $Z$, and $W_{(1,1)} = V(g)_{2+1/2}$, the part with $L_{0}$-eigenvalues in $Z + 1/2$. Then the cyclic orbifold theory developed in \[\H{3}\] finds for the fusion product that

$$W_{(i,j)} \otimes_{V'} W_{(k,l)} \cong W_{(i+k,j+l)}$$

for all $i, j \in \mathbb{Z}_{2}$ and the $S$-matrix of $V^{g}$ (i.e. the factors appearing in Zhu's modular invariance result applied to the characters of the irreducible $V^{g}$-modules under the transformation $\tau \mapsto S \tau = -1/\tau$) is given by

$$S_{(i,j), (k,l)} = \frac{1}{2} (-1)^{-(k+j+i)}.$$

The conformal weights of the irreducible $V^{g}$-modules obey

$$\rho(W_{(i,j)}) \in \frac{ij}{2} + \mathbb{Z}.$$

More specifically, with the assumptions we made, $\rho(W_{(0,0)}) = 0$, $\rho(W_{(0,1)}) \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 1}$, $\rho(W_{(1,0)}) = 0$ and $\rho(W_{(1,1)}) \in 1/2 + \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$.

Following the same arguments as in the proof of Lemma 4.2 in \[\H{3}\] (but considering the fact that there are two irreducible modules with minimal conformal weight instead of just one) we can show that

$$q\dim_{V'} W_{(i,j)} = \frac{S_{(i,j), (0,0)} + S_{(i,j), (1,0)}}{S_{(0,0), (0,0)} + S_{(0,0), (1,0)}} = \frac{1 + (-1)^{j}}{1 + 1} = \delta_{0,j},$$

where we used that $\dim(W_{(0,0)}) = \dim(W_{(1,0)}) = 1$. This differs clearly from the situation where Conjecture \[\H{3}\] holds.

### References


