Topological Quantum Computation Problems

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In spring 2018, Shawn X. Cui taught an excellent seminar on topological quantum computation, and these were the homework problems.

Contents

| 1 | Logical operators in toric code | 1 |
|---|--|----|
| 2 | V_{gs} is an error-correcting code | 5 |
| 3 | Braiding statistics of quasi-particles in toric code | 7 |
| 4 | Single-particle excitation on a torus | 7 |
| 5 | Local operators interpreted as ribbon operators | 12 |
| 6 | Excitation types can be locally measured | 14 |
| 7 | Non-abelian Aharonov-Bohm effect | 17 |
| 8 | Quantum double model for \mathbb{Z}_2 | 21 |

1 Logical operators in toric code

Question. In class, we studied string operators $S^{Z}(t)$ and $S^{Z}(t')$ where t and t' are string operators on the lattice and dual lattice, respectively. By definition, $S^{Z}(t)$ acts by Pauli Z on each edge of t and by identity otherwise. Similarly, $S^{X}(t')$ acts by Pauli X on each edge crossed by t' and by identity otherwise. Consider the case where both t, t' are closed strings. Let V_{gs} be the ground state space.

- Show that $S^{Z}(t)$ and $S^{X}(t')$ preserve V_{gs} for arbitrary closed strings t, t'. Moreover, show that the action of these operators on V_{gs} only depends on the isotopy class of the strings. In particular, this means if a closed string is contractible, the corresponding string operator acts by identity on ground states.
- By the previous result, there are four string operators of Z-type which are $\{S^{Z}(\emptyset), S^{Z}(m), S^{Z}(l), S^{Z}(m \cup l)\}$, where \emptyset is the empty string or any contractible string, m is a loop along the horizontal direction, and l is a loop along the vertical direction. See Figure 4. Similarly, there are four strings of X-type, $\{S^{X}(\emptyset), S^{X}(m), S^{X}(l), S^{X}(m \cup l)\}$. Let

$$\hat{Z}_1 = S^Z(m), \hat{Z}_2 = S^Z(l),$$
 (1)

$$\hat{X}_1 = S^X(l'), \hat{X}_2 = S^X(m')$$
(2)

Show that on the ground states the commutation relations between the operators $\{\hat{Z}_1, \hat{Z}_2, \hat{X}_1, \hat{X}_2\}$ behave like the usual Pauli operators $\{Z_1, Z_2, X_1, X_2\}$. These operators are the logical operators.

- Show that the space of logical operators, i.e. those preserving V_{gs} , is generated as an algebra by $\{\hat{Z}_1, \hat{Z}_2, \hat{X}_1, \hat{X}_2\}$. (Hint: the space of all operators on a physical qubit has a basis given by $\{Id, X, Z, XZ\}$.)
- *Proof.* The Hamiltonian on toric code is given by

$$H := \sum_{v \in V} (1 - A_v) + \sum_{p \in F} (1 - B_p)$$
(3)

for

$$A_{v} := (\bigotimes_{e \in star(v)} X) \otimes (\bigotimes_{e \in E - star(v)} Id), \tag{4}$$

$$B_p := (\bigotimes_{e \in \partial p} Z) \otimes (\bigotimes_{e \in E - \partial p} Id)$$
(5)

and F the set of plaquettes, E is the set of edges, and V the set of vertices. Thus the ground state V_{gs} is given by

$$V_{gs} = \{ |\psi\rangle \in \mathscr{H}_{T^2} = \bigotimes_{e \in E} \mathbb{C}^2 : A_v |\psi\rangle = |\psi\rangle, B_p |\psi\rangle = |\psi\rangle, \forall v \in V, p \in F \}$$
(6)



Figure 1: Closed strings in the lattice and dual lattice on the torus.

First off, we examine the commutators $[A_v, S^Z(t)], [B_p, S^Z(t)], [A_v, S^X(t')],$ and $[B_p, S^X(t')]$ for t, t' closed loops. If t is a closed loop, every vertex in tmust be connected to an even number of edges in t; a vertex in t connected to an odd number of edges in t would be a boundary of t, which is supposed to be closed. If v is a vertex that isn't in t, then A_v must commute with $S^Z(t)$, as they are acting on different tensor factors. If v is a vertex in t, it is adjacent to either 2 or 4 edges in t. Thus every vertex in t has an even number of Z operators in the tensor product. By inspection, XZ = -ZX, so we have $A_v S^Z(t) = (-1)^{2,4} S^Z(t) A_v = S^Z(t) A_v$, i.e. $[A_v, S^Z(t)] = 0, \forall v \in t$ as well. Furthermore, since B_p only consists of Z operators and identity operators, and so does $S^Z(t), [B_p, S^Z(t)]$ must be 0 for all $p \in F$.

Similarly, for a plaquette $p \in F$ in t', there can either be 2 or 4 dual edges in p, and thus either 2 or 4 *edges* in ∂p . By the same reasoning as above, $S^X(t')B_p = (-1)^{2,4}B_pS^X(t') = B_pS^X(t')$, so $[B_p, S^X(t')] = 0, \forall p \in t'$. Similarly, A_v is comprised only of X operators and identity operators, and so is $S^X(t')$, so $[A_v, S^X(t')]$ must be 0 for all $p \in F$. Note that this is true independently of the closed strings t, t'.

Let $|\psi\rangle$ be a ground state, and define $|\phi\rangle := S^{Z}(t) |\psi\rangle, |\phi'\rangle := S^{X}(t') |\psi\rangle.$

From before, we have

$$A_{v} |\phi\rangle = A_{v} S^{Z}(t) |\psi\rangle = S^{Z}(t) A_{v} |\psi\rangle = S^{Z}(t) |\psi\rangle = |\phi\rangle$$
(7)

$$B_{p} |\phi\rangle = B_{p} S^{Z}(t) |\psi\rangle = S^{Z}(t) B_{p} |\psi\rangle = S^{Z}(t) |\psi\rangle = |\phi\rangle \qquad (8)$$

and

$$A_{v} |\phi'\rangle = A_{v} S^{X}(t') |\psi\rangle = S^{X}(t') A_{v} |\psi'\rangle = S^{X}(t') |\psi\rangle = |\phi'\rangle$$
(9)

$$B_p |\phi'\rangle = B_p S^X(t') |\psi\rangle = S^X(t') B_p |\psi\rangle = S^X(t') |\psi\rangle = |\phi'\rangle$$
(10)

Thus $S^{Z}(t)$, $S^{X}(t')$ preserve V_{gs} , if t, t' are closed strings.

Consider $S^{Z}(t) |\psi\rangle$. We can deform the action of $S^{Z}(t)$ by acting by B_{p} on $S^{Z}(t)$ where at least one edge in ∂p is in t. This deforms t around the plaquette p, because it acts by Z on the edges around p where t wasn't, and cancels out the edges around p where t already was, because $Z^{2} = Id$. Similarly, we can deform the path of t' by acting by A_{v} on $S^{X}(t')$ where at least one edge adjacent to v is crossed by an edge in t'. This deforms t' around the vertex v, because it acts by X on the dual edges around v where t' wasn't, and cancels out the dual edges around v where t' already was, by acting on such edges twice with X, and thus acting on such edges by the identity. See the Figure 2 for an example.

Thus if we get t_2 by a deformation on t_1 , we have $S^Z(t_2) = B_{p_1}...B_{p_n}S^Z(t_2)$ for some plaquettes $p_i, i \in \{1, ..., n\}$. Thus, for $|\psi\rangle$ a ground state, we have

$$S^{Z}(t_{2}) |\psi\rangle = B_{p_{1}}...B_{p_{n}}S^{Z}(t_{1}) |\psi\rangle = S^{Z}(t_{1}) |\psi\rangle$$
(11)

$$S^{X}(t'_{2}) |\psi\rangle = A_{v_{1}}...A_{v_{n}} S^{X}(t'_{1}) |\psi\rangle = S^{X}(t'_{1}) |\psi\rangle$$
(12)

so although the operators S^X , S^Z change with isotopy, their action on V_{gs} is preserved.

Up to isotopy, *m* intersects l' on only one edge of the lattice, as well as l and m'. Thus the commutation relations between \hat{Z}_1 , \hat{X}_1 and \hat{Z}_2 , \hat{X}_2 come down to their action on that one edge (\hat{Z}_1 and \hat{X}_2 need not intersect, and the same goes for \hat{Z}_2 and \hat{X}_1). Since their actions are Z and X, they must obey the same commutation relations as $\{Z_1, Z_2, X_1, X_2\}$.

Since the space of all operators on a qubit is generated by $\{Z, X\}$, and $\{\hat{Z}_1, \hat{Z}_2, \hat{X}_1, \hat{X}_2\}$ is isomorphic as an algebra to $\{Z_1, Z_2, X_1, X_2\}$, the space of logical operators is generated by $\{\hat{Z}_1, \hat{Z}_2, \hat{X}_1, \hat{X}_2\}$.



Figure 2: Deformation of loops.

2 V_{gs} is an error-correcting code

Question. Let the square lattice \mathcal{L} in the definition of toric code have size $L \times L$, namely, there are L edges in the shortest non-contractible loop both along the horizontal direction and along the vertical direction. Let

$$P := \prod_{v \in V} \frac{Id + A_v}{2} \prod_{p \in F} \frac{Id + B_p}{2}$$
(13)

Namely, P is the projector onto the ground space V_{gs} . Let \mathcal{O} be any operator acting on less than L qubits, namely, \mathcal{O} acts nontrivially on at most L - 1 qubits. Show

that

$$P \mathcal{O} P = \alpha_{\mathcal{O}} P, \tag{14}$$

for some scalar α_{\odot} . (V_{gs} is an error-correcting code which corrects errors on arbitrary $\lfloor \frac{L-1}{2} \rfloor$ qubits. (Hint: it suffices to show this equation for a basis of the space of operators acting on at most L - 1 qubits. A basis for this space is given by

$$\{\prod_{e \in E} \mathscr{P}_e : \mathscr{P}_e \in \{Id, X, Z, XZ\}, and at most L - 1 \mathscr{P}'_e s are not trivial\}$$
(15)

Proof. Each edge in \mathcal{L} is the side of two plaquettes and belongs to the star of two vertices. Thus, for each edge qubit *e* in some state [... $\otimes e \otimes$...], we have

$$(\frac{2Id}{2})^{n_6}(\frac{Id+X}{2})(\frac{2Id}{2})^{n_5}(\frac{Id+X}{2})(\frac{2Id}{2})^{n_4}.$$
 (16)

$$(\frac{2Id}{2})^{n_3}(\frac{Id+Z}{2})(\frac{2Id}{2})^{n_2}(\frac{Id+Z}{2})(\frac{2Id}{2})^{n_1}$$
(17)

acting on *e*, with $n_i \in \{0, ..., L^2 - 2\}$ depending on the order of ennumerating the vertices and plaquettes. This action on each *e* becomes

$$(\frac{Id+X}{2})(\frac{Id+X}{2})(\frac{Id+Z}{2})(\frac{Id+Z}{2}) = (\frac{Id+X}{2})(\frac{Id+Z}{2})$$
(18)

$$=\left(\frac{Id+X+Z+XZ}{4}\right):=P_e\quad(19)$$

For each edge, we have

$$P_e I d P_e = \frac{I d + X + Z + XZ}{8} = \frac{1}{2} P_e$$
(20)

$$P_e X P_e = P_e P_e = \frac{Id + X + Z + XZ}{8} = \frac{1}{2} P_e$$
(21)

$$P_e Z P_e = \frac{Id + X + Z + XZ}{8} = \frac{1}{2} P_e$$
(22)

$$P_e X Z P_e = -\frac{Id + X + Z + XZ}{8} = -\frac{1}{2} P_e$$
(23)

Thus, tensoring all the P_e s together to form P, we get

$$P \mathcal{O} P = \alpha_{\mathcal{O}} P \tag{24}$$

where $\alpha_{\mathcal{O}}$ is a product of scalar multiples of $\frac{1}{2}$.

3 Braiding statistics of quasi-particles in toric code

Question. In class, we have shown that there are four types of quasi-particles, the vacuum 1, the electric charge e, the magnetic charge m, and the composite em of an electric charge with a magnetic charge. Consider a pair of electric charges e, and denote the state of such configuration by

$$|\psi_{in}\rangle = S^{Z}(t) |\epsilon\rangle \tag{25}$$

where $|\epsilon\rangle$ is some ground state. If we swap the two particles in counterclockwise direction, then the state becomes

$$|\psi_{fi}\rangle = S^{Z}(t')|\epsilon\rangle \tag{26}$$

But since t and t' can be deformed to each other, we have $|\psi_{in}\rangle = |\psi_{fi}\rangle$. Hence the electric charge e is a boson. Similarly, the magnetic charge m is also a boson. However, show that the composite em is a fermion.

Proof. I assume that an *em* charge on the lattice is a site (adjacent vertex and dual vertex) on the lattice. Exchanging the *em* sites involves composing the paths creating the quasiparticles with a loop where the vertices of said loop are the locations of the particles:

$$|\psi_{em}\rangle := S^{X}(t')S^{Z}(t)|\epsilon\rangle \xrightarrow{exchange} S^{X}(t'\cup t'_{loop})S^{Z}(t\cup t_{loop})|\epsilon\rangle$$
(27)

$$= S^{X}(t')S^{X}(t'_{loop})S^{Z}(t)S^{Z}(t_{loop}) |\epsilon\rangle \quad (28)$$

$$=S^{X}(t')S^{X}(t'_{loop})S^{Z}(t)|\epsilon\rangle$$
⁽²⁹⁾

$$= -S^{X}(t')S^{Z}(t)S^{X}(t'_{loop})|\epsilon\rangle$$
(30)

$$= -S^{X}(t')S^{Z}(t)|\epsilon\rangle$$
(31)

$$= - |\psi_{em}\rangle \tag{32}$$

since trivial (dual) loops act by identity on $|\epsilon\rangle \in V_{gs}$, and $S^Z(t)$ intersects $S^X(t'_{loop})$ once, since the vertices are adjacent, and thus they anticommute. Since the exchange operator gives a phase factor of -1, *em* charges are fermions.

4 Single-particle excitation on a torus

Recall Kitaev's quantum double model based on a finite group G on a torus. For \mathcal{L} an arbitrary lattice on the torus, we fix an orientation and associated to each edge



Figure 3: Operators used to construct the Hamiltonian, for $g, h \in G$

the Hilbert space $\mathbb{C}[G]$ for a total Hilbert space on \mathscr{L} denoted by \mathscr{H}_{tot} . We denote the set of all vertices V and the set of all plaquettes F. For each site s = (v, p) (for each vertex we associate the plaquette to its upper right) we have the operators: We further define

$$A(v) := \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} A_g(v), B(p) = B_e(v, p)$$
(33)

and then define the Hamiltonian by

$$H = \sum_{v \in V} (1 - A(v)) + \sum_{p \in F} (1 - B(p))$$
(34)

where the ground state is

$$V_{gs} = \{ |\psi\rangle \in \mathscr{H}_{tot} : A(v) |\psi\rangle = |\psi\rangle, B(p) |\psi\rangle = |\psi\rangle \}$$
(35)

Question. Single-particle excitations cannot occur on the sphere, but they can occur on the torus. Consider a square lattice on the torus. All horizontal edges are oriented to the right and all vertical edges are oriented upward. Let G be

a finite group and let $a, b \in G$ be two group elements which do not commute. Let $r = aba^{-1}b^{-1}$. Recall that on each edge lives a Hilbert space with the basis $\{|g\rangle : g \in G\}$ and the total Hilbert space is the tensor product of the Hilbert space on all edges. Let $|\psi\rangle$ be the basis state in the total Hilbert space whose value at each edge is shown in Figure 7, and all other edges are labeled by e. Define

$$|\psi_{a,b}\rangle := \prod_{v \in V} A(v) |\psi\rangle$$
(36)

1. By definition, $|\psi_{a,b}\rangle$ is stabilized by all A(v)s. Let p_0 be the plaquette on the top right of the lattice. Show that

$$B(p) |\psi_{a,b}\rangle = |\psi_{a,b}\rangle, \forall p \neq p_0, \tag{37}$$

$$B(p_0) |\psi_{a,b}\rangle = 0 \tag{38}$$

Thus $|\psi_{a,b}\rangle$ *is a state which violates only one constraint. Note that* $|\psi_{a,b}\rangle$ *is not the zero vector.*

2. Let C be the conjugacy class containing r. Let v_0 be a vertex on the boundary of p_0 and $s_0 = (v_0, p_0)$ be a site. For each $c \in C$, define

$$|c\rangle := B_c(s_0) |\psi_{a,b}\rangle \tag{39}$$

and let $V = span\{|c\rangle : c \in C\}$. Show that the states $\{|c\rangle : c \in C\}$ form a basis of V.

- 3. It is not hard to see that any state in V is stabilized by all A(v) and B(p) for which $v \neq v_0$, $p \neq p_0$. What is the action of the operators $A_g(s_0)$ and $B_h(s_0)$ on V? Write it out under the basis $\{|c\rangle : c \in C\}$. Conclude which irrep V corresponds to. A state in V represents an excitation on the single site s_0 .
- *Proof.* 1. Every edge in \mathscr{L} is hit twice by $\prod_{v \in V}$. Due to the orientation of each edge around every plaquette, when we order the edges clockwise around the plaquette we get right multiplication by \overline{g} on one edge, and left multiplication by g on the right edge, for every g in the sum in A(v), once all vs are taken into account. Suppose a plaquette p's state $|p\rangle$ has edges h_1, h_2, h_3 , and h_4 going clockwise around the plaquette, starting from the bottom edge.



Figure 4: Lattice on a torus

Acting on \mathscr{L} by $\prod_{v \in V} A(v)$, the Hilbert subspace around the plaquette becomes

$$\prod_{v \in V} A(v) |\psi\rangle = \frac{1}{|G|^4} \sum_{g_1, g_2, g_3, g_4} (g_1 h_1 \overline{g_2} \otimes g_2 h_2 \overline{g_3} \otimes g_4 h_3 \overline{g_3} \otimes g_1 h_4 \overline{g_4})$$
(40)

This gives us

$$B(p) |\psi_{a,b}\rangle := B_e(p) |\psi_{a,b}\rangle = \frac{1}{|G|^4} \sum_{g_1, g_2, g_3, g_4} \delta_{e,g_1h_1\overline{g_2}g_2h_2\overline{g_3}g_3\overline{h_3}} \overline{g_4g_4\overline{h_4}} \overline{g_1} |\psi_{a,b}\rangle$$
(41)

$$= \frac{1}{|G|^4} |G|^3 \sum_{g_1 \in G} \delta_{e,g_1h_1h_2\overline{h_3}} \overline{h_4} \overline{g_1} |\psi_{a,b}\rangle \qquad (42)$$

In our particular labelling, all plaquettes except for p_0 are of configuration either *eeee*, *aeae*, or *ebeb*, so the action of B(p) for all $p \in F$ except for p_0 is the identity.

The configuration on p_0 is *abab*, giving us

$$B(p_0) |\psi_{a,b}\rangle = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} \delta_{e,gab\overline{a}\,\overline{b}\,\overline{g}} |\psi_{a,b}\rangle \tag{43}$$

Since a, b do not commute, $e \neq gab\overline{a} \ \overline{b} \ \overline{g}$ for any $g \in G$, and the state becomes 0.

2. From the above calculation, we have

$$|c\rangle := B_c(s_0) |\psi_{a,b}\rangle = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} \delta_{c,gr\overline{g}} |\psi_{a,b}\rangle$$
(44)

There is a unique set of $g \in G$ such that, for a fixed $c \in C$, $gr\overline{g} = c$. Call this set G_c . Thus completely disjoint subsets of G are kept in the sum for each $c \in C$.

Let $\{a_c \in \mathbb{C} | c \in C\}$ be such that

$$\sum_{c \in C} a_c |c\rangle = 0 = \sum_{c \in C} a_c \prod_{v \in V} \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G_c} A_g(v) |\psi\rangle$$
(45)

But since these are all different gs, the only $\{a_c\}$ set in which this is true is $a_c = 0$ for all $c \in C$.

3. Fix a $c \in C$ for now. We have

$$A_g(s_0) |c\rangle = A_g(s_0) B_c(s_0) |\psi_{a,b}\rangle$$
(46)

$$=\delta_{gc\overline{g},gab\overline{a}\,\overline{b}\,\overline{g}}A_g(s_0)\,|\psi_{a,b}\rangle\tag{47}$$

$$= B_{gc\overline{g}}A_g(s_0) |\psi_{a,b}\rangle \tag{48}$$

$$= B_{gc\overline{g}}A_g(s_0)\prod_{\nu\in V}\frac{1}{|G|}\sum_{g'\in G}A_{g'}|\psi\rangle$$
(49)

$$= B_{gc\overline{g}} \left| \psi_{a,b} \right\rangle \tag{50}$$

since the action of $A_g(s_0)$ just rearranges the sum on $v_0 \in s_0$ for $\frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g' \in G} A_{g'} |\psi\rangle$. Thus

$$A_g(s_0) | c \rangle \mapsto | g c \overline{g} \rangle \tag{51}$$

for all $c \in C$. Next we look at $B_h(s_0) | c \rangle$. We have

$$B_h(s_0) |c\rangle = B_h(s_0) B_c(s_0) |\psi_{a,b}\rangle$$
(52)

For a plaquette *p* with clockwise labels g_1, g_2, g_3 , and g_4 , starting from the bottom label, we have

$$B_h(p)B_c(p) = B_h(p)\delta_{c,g_1g_2\overline{g_3}} \overline{g_4}$$
(53)

$$=\delta_{h,g_1g_2\overline{g_3}} \overline{g_4} \delta_{c,g_1g_2\overline{g_3}} \overline{g_4}$$
(54)

$$=\delta_{h,c}\delta_{c,g_1g_2\overline{g_3}}\frac{}{g_4} \tag{55}$$

$$=\delta_{h,c}B_c(p) \tag{56}$$

Thus we have

$$B_h(s_0) |c\rangle = \delta_{h,c} |c\rangle \tag{57}$$

for all $c \in C$.

We now check what irreducible representation of the quantum double V corresponds to. An irreducible representation of the quantum double corresponds to (C, χ) , where χ is an irreducible representation of the centralizer of r. The Hilbert space corresponding to (C, χ) is given by

$$\mathbb{C}[C] \otimes V_{\gamma} \tag{58}$$

Since $V = \mathbb{C}[C]$, the irreducible representation corresponding to V is (C, 1).

5 Local operators interpreted as ribbon operators

Question. Let s = (v, p) be any site on a lattice. We show the local operators $A_g(s)$ and $B_h(s), h, g \in G$ can be interpreted as ribbon operators for certain ribbons. We start with $B_h(s)$. Let t_s be a ribbon contained in the plaquette p, starting and ending both at s. See Figure 5 (Left). It consists of four triangles of type-II (direct triangles) t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4 , and is directed in the order the triangles are listed. Assume the edges on the boundary of p are directed as shown in Figure 5 (Left) and a basis state $|x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4\rangle$ is given. Then

$$F^{(h,g)}(t_i) |x_i\rangle = \delta_{g,x_i} |x_i\rangle$$
(59)



Figure 5: Lattice on a torus

By the inductive formula for ribbon operators

$$F^{(h,g)}(t_1t_2) := \sum_{k \in G} F^{(h,k)}(t_1) F^{(\overline{k}hk,\overline{k}g)}(t_2), \tag{60}$$

we have

$$F^{(h,g)}(t_1t_2) |x_1, x_2\rangle = \sum_{k \in G} F^{(h,k)}(t_1) |x_1\rangle \otimes F^{(\overline{k}hk, \overline{k}g)}(t_2) |x_2\rangle$$
(61)

$$=\sum_{k\in G}\delta_{k,x_1}\delta_{\overline{k}g,x_2} |x_1,x_2\rangle \tag{62}$$

$$=\delta_{g,x_1x_2} |x_1,x_2\rangle \tag{63}$$

Inductively, it is not hard to see that

$$F^{(h,g)}(t_s) |x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4\rangle = \delta_{g, x_1 x_2 x_3 x_4} |x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4\rangle = B_g(s)$$
(64)

Similarly, let τ_s be a ribbon around the vertex v, starting and ending at s. It has four triangles of type-I (dual triangles) $\tau_1, \tau_2, \tau_3, \tau_4$, and is also directed in the order the triangles are listed. See Figure 5 (Right). Prove that

$$F^{(h,g)}(\tau_s) = \delta_{g,e} A_h(s).$$
(65)

Note that $A_h(s)$ actually only depends on v, hence the ribbon operator $F^{(h,g)}(\tau_s)$ does not depend on the choice of the initial site.

Proof. By the inductive formula for ribbon operators, we have

$$F^{(h,g)}(\tau_s) = \sum_{k \in G} F^{(h,k)}(\tau_1 \tau_2 \tau_3) F^{(\overline{k}hk,\overline{k}g)}(\tau_4)$$
(66)

$$= \sum_{k \in G} \sum_{l \in G} F^{(h,l)}(\tau_1 \tau_2) F^{(\bar{l}hl,\bar{l}k)}(\tau_3) F^{(\bar{k}hk,\bar{k}g)}(\tau_4)$$
(67)

$$= \sum_{k \in G} \sum_{l \in G} \sum_{m \in G} F^{(h,m)}(\tau_1) F^{(\overline{m}hm,\overline{m}l)}(\tau_2) F^{(\overline{l}hl,\overline{l}k)}(\tau_3) F^{(\overline{k}hk,\overline{k}g)}(\tau_4) \quad (68)$$

Since

$$F^{(h,g)}(t) |x\rangle = \delta_{g,e} |hx\rangle \tag{69}$$

This gives us

$$F^{(h,g)}(\tau_s) |x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4\rangle = \sum_{k \in G} \sum_{l \in G} \sum_{m \in G} \delta_{m,e} |hx_1\rangle \otimes \delta_{\overline{m}l,e} |\overline{m}hmx_2\rangle$$
(70)

$$\otimes \,\delta_{\overline{l}k,e} \,| \overline{l}h l x_3 \rangle \otimes \delta_{\overline{k}g,e} \,| \overline{k}h k x_4 \rangle \tag{71}$$

$$= |hx_1\rangle \otimes |hx_2\rangle \otimes |hx_3\rangle \otimes \delta_{g,e} |hx_4\rangle$$
(72)

$$=\delta_{g,e}A_h(s) |x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4\rangle \tag{73}$$

6 Excitation types can be locally measured

Question. We know that an excitation in general occupies a site s = (v, p) and the types of excitations are in one-to-one correspondence with irreps of DG, the quantum double of group G. Recall that the irreps Irr(DG) are characterized by the pairs (C, χ) , where C is a conjugacy class with a pre-selected element $r \in$ C and χ is an irrep of Z(r), the centralizer of r. For each $c \in C$, arbitrarily choose $q_c \in G$ such that $q_c r \overline{q_c} = c$. Also recall that DG acts on the total Hilbert space by the local operators D(s) (recall that D(s) is the algebra generated by $A_g(s), B_h(s), g, h \in G$). We wish to find a set of elements

$$\{P_{(C,\chi)} \in DG : (C,\chi) \in Irr(DG)\}$$
(74)

which satisfy the following properties.

$$P_{(C,\chi)}P_{(C',\chi')} = \delta_{C,C'}\delta_{\chi,\chi'},\tag{75}$$

$$\sum_{(C,\chi)\in Irr(DG)} P_{(C,\chi)} = 1, \tag{76}$$

$$P_{(C,\chi)} acts on V_{(C',\chi')} by \,\delta_{(C,C')}\delta_{(\chi,\chi')}.$$
(77)

where we recall $V_{(C,\chi)} = \mathbb{C}[C] \otimes V_{\chi}$. If we have such a set of elements, then their corresponding operators $\{P_{(C,\chi)}(s)\}$ in D(s) form a complete set of orthogonal projectors and hence can be used to construct a measurement. Moreover, the projector $P_{(C,\chi)}(s)$ precisely projects states to the irrep $V_{(C,\chi)}$. Verify that

$$P_{(C,\chi)} := \frac{|\chi|}{|Z(r)|} \sum_{c \in C} \sum_{z \in Z(r)} \overline{Tr(\chi(z))} B_c A_{q_c z \overline{q_c}}$$
(78)

gives the desired elements ($|\chi|$ is the dimension of the representation).

Proof. Recall that the Hilbert space of an excitation (C, χ) in the quantum double model is given by

$$\mathscr{H} = \{ |c\rangle \otimes |j\rangle : c \in C, j = 1, ..., |\chi| \}$$
(79)

and D(s) acts on \mathcal{H} by

$$B_{h} |c\rangle \otimes |j\rangle = \delta_{h,c} |c\rangle \otimes |j\rangle \tag{80}$$

$$A_{g} |c\rangle \otimes |j\rangle = |gc\overline{g}\rangle \otimes \chi(\overline{q_{gc\overline{g}}}gq_{c})|j\rangle$$
(81)

$$=\sum_{i}\chi(\overline{q_{gc\overline{g}}}gq_{c})_{ij}|gc\overline{g}\rangle\otimes|i\rangle$$
(82)

From these it is easy to see that

$$A_{g}B_{h} = B_{gh\overline{g}}A_{g}, B_{h_{1}}B_{h_{2}} = \delta_{h_{1},h_{2}}B_{h_{2}}, A_{g_{1}}A_{g_{2}} = A_{g_{1}g_{2}}$$
(83)

By Schur Orthogonality, we have

$$\sum_{z \in Z(r)} \overline{\chi(z)}_{nm} \chi'(z)_{n'm'} = \delta_{\chi,\chi'} \delta_{n,n'} \delta_{m,m'} \frac{|Z(r)|}{|\chi|}$$
(84)

and since $\overline{Tr(\chi(z))} = \sum_{i} \overline{\chi(x)_{ii}}$, we can rewrite our expression for $P_{(C,\chi)}$. We have, for $|j\rangle$ a basis vector in some irreducible representation χ' ,

$$P_{(C,\chi)}|n\rangle \otimes |j\rangle = \frac{|\chi|}{|Z(r)|} \sum_{c \in C} \sum_{z \in Z(r)} \sum_{m} \overline{\chi(z)}_{mm} B_c \sum_{i} \chi' (\overline{q_{q_c z \overline{q_c} n q_c \overline{z} \overline{q_c}} q_c z \overline{q_c} q_c)_{ij} |q_c z \overline{q_c} n q_c \overline{z} \overline{q_c}\rangle \otimes |i\rangle$$

$$\tag{85}$$

$$=\frac{|\chi|}{|Z(r)|}\sum_{c\in C}\sum_{z\in Z(r)}\sum_{m}\overline{\chi(z)}_{mm}\sum_{i}\chi'(\overline{q_{c}}q_{c}z\overline{q_{c}}q_{c})_{ij}\delta_{c,q_{c}}\overline{z}\overline{q_{c}}|q_{c}z\overline{q_{c}}nq_{c}\overline{z}|\overline{q_{c}}\rangle\otimes|i\rangle$$
(86)

$$= \frac{|\chi|}{|Z(r)|} \sum_{c \in C} \sum_{m} \sum_{i} \delta_{\chi,\chi'} \delta_{m,i} \delta_{m,j} \frac{|Z(r)|}{|\chi|} |c\rangle \otimes |i\rangle$$
(87)

$$= \frac{|\chi|}{|Z(r)|} \sum_{c \in C} \sum_{i} \delta_{\chi,\chi'} \delta_{i,j} \frac{|Z(r)|}{|\chi|} |c\rangle \otimes |i\rangle$$
(88)

$$=\sum_{c\in C} B_c |n\rangle \otimes \delta_{\chi,\chi'} |j\rangle$$
(89)

by Schur orthogonality.

Now we check the first property. For some state in $\sum_{c'' \in C'', i \in |\chi''|} v_{c''} |c''\rangle \otimes v_i |i\rangle \in \mathbb{C}[C''] \otimes V_{\chi''}$, we have

$$P_{(C,\chi)}P_{(C',\chi')}v = \sum_{c \in C} B_c \delta_{\chi,\chi''} \sum_{c' \in C'} B_{c'} \delta_{\chi',\chi''}v$$
(90)

$$= \sum_{c \in C} \delta_{c,c''} \delta_{\chi,\chi''} \sum_{c' \in C'} \delta_{c',c''} \delta_{\chi',\chi''} v \tag{91}$$

This is only nonzero if $\chi'' = \chi = \chi'$ and C'' = C = C'. If this is the case, we have

$$P_{(C,\chi)}P_{(C',\chi')} = \sum_{c \in C} \delta_c(\sum_{c \in C} v_c | c \rangle \otimes ...)$$
(92)

$$= \sum_{c \in C} v_c \left| c \right\rangle \otimes \dots \tag{93}$$

Thus $P_{(C,\chi)}P_{(C',\chi')} = \delta_{C,C'}\delta_{\chi,\chi'}$. However, when we take $\sum_{(C,\chi)\in Irr(DG)}P_{(C,\chi)}$, every irreducible representation is hit and every group element is hit, so it doesn't matter which conjugacy class or representation we have. For $v = \sum_{g \in G} v_g |g\rangle \in$

 $\mathbb{C}[G] \otimes \sum_{\chi \in DG} \sum_{x \in |\chi|} v_x |x\rangle \in DG$, we have

$$\sum_{(C,\chi)\in Irr(DG)} P_{(C,\chi)}v = \sum_{C} \sum_{\chi} \sum_{c\in C} \delta_{c,g} \delta_{\chi,\chi'} (\sum_{g} v_g | g) \otimes \sum_{\chi\in DG} \sum_{x\in|\chi'|} v_x | x \rangle)$$

$$= \sum_{C} v_{-} | g \rangle \otimes \sum_{\chi\in C} \sum_{x\in|\chi'|} v_{-} | x \rangle$$
(94)
(95)

$$= \sum_{g} v_{g} |g\rangle \otimes \sum_{\chi \in DG} \sum_{x \in |\chi'|} v_{\chi} |x\rangle$$
(95)

so $\sum_{(C,\chi)\in Irr(DG)} P_{(C,\chi)} = 1$. Lastly, for any element $v = \sum_{c'\in C'} v_{c'} |c'\rangle \otimes \sum_{i\in |\chi'|} v_i |i\rangle \in V_{(C,\chi)}$, we have

$$P_{(C,\chi)}v = \sum_{c \in C} B_c \delta_{\chi,\chi'} \sum_{c' \in C'} v_{c'} |c'\rangle \otimes \sum_{i \in |\chi'|} v_i |i\rangle$$
(96)

$$= \sum_{c \in C} \delta_{c,c'} \delta_{\chi,\chi'} \sum_{c' \in C'} v_{c'} |c'\rangle \otimes \sum_{i \in |\chi'|} v_i |i\rangle$$
(97)

If $C \neq C'$, *c* is never *c'*, and this is zero. If C = C', then this is equal to $\delta_{\chi,\chi'} \sum_{c' \in C'} v_{c'} |c'\rangle \otimes \sum_{i \in |\chi'|} v_i |i\rangle$, the identity. Thus $P_{(C,\chi)}$ acts on $V_{(C',\chi')}$ by $\delta_{C,C'} \delta_{\chi,\chi'}$.

7 Non-abelian Aharonov-Bohm effect

Question. (Irrep = irreducible representation) We consider two special types of excitations. An anyon of type (C, I) is called a magnetic charge and an anyon of type $(\{e\}, \chi)$ is called an electric charge, where I means the trivial irrep of the corresponding centralizer and $\{e\}$ is the conjugacy class containing only the identity element. In the latter case, χ is an irrep of G. For a magnetic charge (C, I), a basis for the irrep is given by

$$\{|c\rangle: c \in C\},\tag{98}$$

and the action of the double DG is

$$A_g \left| c \right\rangle = \left| g c \overline{g} \right\rangle \tag{99}$$

$$B_h \left| c \right\rangle = \delta_{h,c} \left| c \right\rangle. \tag{100}$$

For an electric charge ($\{e\}, \chi$), a basis for the irrep is given by

$$\{|j\rangle : j = 1, ..., |\chi|\},\tag{101}$$



Figure 6: (Left) Swap of α and β in counterclockwise direction. (Right) Drag α around β in counterclockwise direction. This is equivalent to two counterclockwise swaps.

and the action is

$$A_{g}\left|j\right\rangle = \chi(g)\left|j\right\rangle \tag{102}$$

$$B_h \left| j \right\rangle = \delta_{h,e} \left| j \right\rangle. \tag{103}$$

Note that the actions above can all be derived from the general formula on irreps of DG. If we swap an anyon of type α with an anyon of type β in the counterclockwise direction (see Figure 6 (Left)), then this induces the transformation $c_{\alpha,\beta}$ given by:

$$\alpha \otimes \beta \xrightarrow{R} \alpha \otimes \beta \xrightarrow{Flip} \beta \otimes \alpha, \tag{104}$$

where $R = \sum_{g} A_{g} \otimes B_{g}$, and the first factor of R acts on α and the second factor acts on β .

• If $\alpha = (\{e\}, \chi), \beta = (C, \mathbf{1}), a basis for \alpha \otimes \beta and \beta \otimes \alpha are given, respectively, by$

$$\{|j,c\rangle : j = 1, ..., |\chi|, c \in C\}$$
 and $\{|c,j\rangle : j = 1, ..., |\chi|, c \in C\}$ (105)

Write out the transformation $c_{\alpha,\beta}$ under the bases above. Do the same for $c_{\beta,\alpha}$. Swapping α and β followed by another swap of β and α is the same as dragging α along some closed path around β (see Figure 6 (Right)). The net result is a unitary transformation on $\alpha \otimes \beta$ given by

$$\alpha \otimes \beta \xrightarrow{c_{\alpha,\beta}} \beta \otimes \alpha \xrightarrow{c_{\beta,\alpha}} \alpha \otimes \beta.$$
(106)

If you have worked out $c_{\alpha,\beta}$ and $c_{\beta,\alpha}$, then you will see that

$$c_{\beta,\alpha} \circ c_{\alpha\beta} |j,c\rangle = \chi(c) |j\rangle \otimes |c\rangle.$$
(107)

This is the non-Abelian Aharonov-Bohm effect for anyons.

- Work out the formula for $c_{\beta,\alpha} \circ c_{\alpha,\beta}$ in Case I where α, β are two magnetic charges and n Case II where α, β are two electric charges.
- *Proof.* First we act by *R*.

$$R|j,c\rangle = \sum_{g} A_{g}|j\rangle \otimes B_{g}|c\rangle$$
(108)

$$= \sum_{g} \chi(g) \left| j \right\rangle \otimes \delta_{g,c} \left| c \right\rangle \tag{109}$$

$$=\chi(c)\left|j\right\rangle\otimes\left|c\right\rangle\tag{110}$$

$$\xrightarrow{\text{Flip}} |c\rangle \otimes \chi(c) |j\rangle \tag{111}$$

Thus $c_{\alpha,\beta} |j,c\rangle = |c\rangle \otimes \chi(c) |j\rangle$. For $c_{\beta,\alpha}$, we have

$$R |c, j\rangle = \sum_{g} A_{g} |c\rangle \otimes B_{g} |j\rangle$$
(112)

$$=\sum_{g}|gc\overline{g}\rangle\otimes\delta_{g,e}|j\rangle \tag{113}$$

$$= |c\rangle \otimes |j\rangle \tag{114}$$

$$\xrightarrow{\text{Flip}} |j\rangle \otimes |c\rangle \tag{115}$$

Thus $c_{\beta,\alpha} \circ c_{\alpha\beta} |j,c\rangle = \chi(c) |j\rangle \otimes |c\rangle$.

• Case I: $\alpha, \beta = (C, 1)$. In this case, a basis for $\alpha \otimes \beta$ is

$$\{|c\rangle \otimes |c'\rangle : c, c' \in C\}$$
(116)

We then have

$$R |c\rangle \otimes |c'\rangle = \sum_{g} A_{g} |c\rangle \otimes B_{g} |c'\rangle$$
(117)

$$= \sum_{g} |gc\overline{g}\rangle \otimes \delta_{g,e} |c'\rangle \tag{118}$$

$$= |c\rangle \otimes |c'\rangle \tag{119}$$

$$\xrightarrow{\text{Flip}} |c'\rangle \otimes |c\rangle \tag{120}$$

$$\xrightarrow{R} \sum_{g} A_{g} |c'\rangle \otimes B_{g} |c\rangle$$
(121)

$$= |gc'\overline{g}\rangle \otimes \delta_{g,e} |c\rangle \tag{122}$$

$$= |c'\rangle \otimes |c\rangle \tag{123}$$

$$\xrightarrow{\text{Flip}} |c\rangle \otimes |c'\rangle \tag{124}$$

Thus when magnetic charges are bosons.

Case II: $\alpha, \beta = (\{e\}, \chi)$. In the case, a basis for $\alpha \otimes \beta$ is

$$\{|i\rangle \otimes |j\rangle : i, j = 1, ..., |\chi|\}$$
(125)

We then have

$$R |i\rangle \otimes |j\rangle = \sum_{g} A_{g} |i\rangle \otimes B_{g} |j\rangle$$
(126)

$$=\sum_{g} \chi(g) \left| i \right\rangle \otimes \delta_{g,e} \left| j \right\rangle \tag{127}$$

$$=\chi(e)\left|i\right\rangle\otimes\left|j\right\rangle\tag{128}$$

$$=|i\rangle\otimes|j\rangle \tag{129}$$

$$\xrightarrow{\text{Flip}} |j\rangle \otimes |i\rangle \tag{130}$$

$$\xrightarrow{R} \sum_{g} A_{g} \left| j \right\rangle \otimes B_{g} \left| i \right\rangle \tag{131}$$

$$=\sum_{g} \chi(g) \left| j \right\rangle \otimes \delta_{g,e} \left| i \right\rangle \tag{132}$$

$$= |j\rangle \otimes |i\rangle \qquad \qquad \xrightarrow{\text{Flip}} |i\rangle \otimes |j\rangle \qquad (133)$$



Figure 7: The action of $F^{(i,j)}(\tau)$ for two types of triangles.

Thus electric charges are bosons as well. These results match what we find in toric code.

8 Quantum double model for \mathbb{Z}_2

Question. The quantum double based on $G = \mathbb{Z}_2 = \{0, 1\}$ recovers the toric code. In this case, at each edge in the lattice lives a qubit with the standard basis $\{|0\rangle, |1\rangle\}$. There is no need to orient the edges since all group elements are their own inverse and the group is Abelian. Let X and Z be the Pauli matrices.

- Work out the formula for the vertex operator A(v) and plaquette operator B(p). These will not be exactly the same as the ones defined originally in toric code, but only differ in a simple way. The two Hamiltonians are equivalent, up to an energy shift.
- Let's look at ribbon operators.

Let $(i, j) \in \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ be a pair of group elements. If t is a type-I triangle (resp. type-II triangle) (see Figure 7), then $F^{(i,j)}(t)$ acts as $\delta_{j,0}X^i$ (resp. $|j\rangle\langle j|$) on the corresponding edge. The inductive formula for splitting ribbons is given by

$$F^{(i,j)}(t_1 t_2) := \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_2} F^{(i,k)}(t_1) F^{(i,j+k)}(t_2)$$
(134)

Note that arithmetic is performed modulo 2.

Work out an explicit expression for the ribbon operator $F^{(i,j)}(t)$ where t is shown in Figure 8.



Figure 8: A general ribbon *t*.

To continue, we need to study irreps of DZ₂. Each element of Z₂ represents a conjugacy class, and the centralizer is always Z₂ itself since the group is abelian. An irrep of Z₂ is 1-dimensional and is given by a group element, 0 or 1, corresponding to the trivial and non-trivial irrep. To avoid confusion, let's denote them by [0] and [1]. The [0] irrep maps everything to 1 and the [1] irrep maps a group element i to (−1)ⁱ. Therefore, irreps of DZ₂ correspond to

$$\{(i, [j]) : i, j \in \mathbb{Z}_2\}$$
(135)

All of them are 1-dimensional. Show that the matrix element of $D_{(k,l)} = B_k A_l$ in the irrep (i, [j]) is given by

$$\Gamma_{11}^{(i,[j])}(D_{(k,l)}) = \delta_{k,i}(-1)^{jl}.$$
(136)

• In the general case, the ribbon operator in the representation basis is given by

$$F^{(C,\chi;u,u')}(t) = \frac{|(C,\chi)|}{|G|} \sum_{h,g} \Gamma^{(C,\chi)}_{u,u'}(D_{(h,g)}) F^{(h,g)}(t).$$
(137)

In our case, this formula can be simplified as

$$F^{(i,[j])}(t) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{l=0}^{1} (-1)^{jl} F^{(i,l)}(t).$$
(138)

What is the explicit formula of $F^{(i,[j])}(t)$ for the ribbon t in Figure 8?

• For a general G, with a lattice \mathcal{L} with set of edges E, we have

$$A(v) := \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} A_g(v), B(p) = B_e(v, p)$$
(139)

For $G = \mathbb{Z}_2$, this becomes

$$A(v) = \frac{1}{2}(Id + (\bigotimes_{e \in star(v)} X_e) \otimes (\bigotimes_{e \in E - star(v)} Id_e)), \qquad (140)$$

$$B(p) = \frac{1}{2}(Id + (\bigotimes_{e \in \partial p} Z_e) \otimes (\bigotimes_{e \in E - \partial p} Id_e)),$$
(141)

for if *p* is a plaquette with edges $p_i \in \mathbb{Z}_2$, i = 1, ..., 4, if $p_1 p_2 p_3 p_4 = 1$, B(p) sends the state to zero, otherwise acts by the identity.

• There are 7 triangles in this ribbon operator, and we label them t_i in the order they appear from the left, crossing edges e_i labelled in the same way. Let k_i be the summed index in the inductive split of the ribbon operator when we separate out the i^{th} triangle from the ribbon. For example, we use k_7 and k_6 in

$$F^{(i,j)}(t_1 t_2 t_3 t_4 t_5 t_6 t_7) = \sum_{k_7 \in \mathbb{Z}_2} F^{(i,k_7)}(t_1 t_2 t_3 t_4 t_5 t_6) F^{(i,j+k_7)}(t_7)$$
(142)

$$= \sum_{k_7 \in \mathbb{Z}_2} F^{(i,k_7)}(t_1 t_2 t_3 t_4 t_5 t_6) [\delta_{j+k_7,0} X^i]_{e_7}$$
(143)

$$= \sum_{k_7 \in \mathbb{Z}_2} \sum_{k_6 \in \mathbb{Z}_2} F^{(i,k_6)}(t_1 t_2 t_3 t_4 t_5) F^{(i,k_7+k_6)}(t_6) [\delta_{j+k_7,0} X^i]_{e_7}$$
(144)

$$= \sum_{k_7 \in \mathbb{Z}_2} \sum_{k_6 \in \mathbb{Z}_2} F^{(i,k_6)}(t_1 t_2 t_3 t_4 t_5) [|k_7 + k_6\rangle \langle k_7 + k_6|]_{e_6} [\delta_{j+k_7,0} X^i]_{e_7}$$
(145)
(146)

Following this through, we eventually get

$$\sum_{\substack{k_2,k_3,k_4,k_5,k_6,k_7 \in \mathbb{Z}_2}} [\delta_{k_2,0} X^i]_{e_1} [|k_3 + k_2\rangle \langle k_3 + k_2|]_{e_2} [\delta_{k_4 + k_3,0} X^i]_{e_3} [|k_5 + k_4\rangle$$
(147)
$$\times \langle k_5 + k_4|]_{e_4} [\delta_{k_6 + k_5,0} X^i]_{e_5} [|k_7 + k_6\rangle \langle k_7 + k_6|]_{e_6} [\delta_{j + k_7,0} X^i]_{e_7}$$
(148)

which, after summing, we have

 $[X^{i}] \otimes [2 \mid 0\rangle \langle 0 \mid + 2 \mid 1\rangle \langle 1 \mid] \otimes [2X^{i}] \otimes [2 \mid 0\rangle \langle 0 \mid + 2 \mid 1\rangle \langle 1 \mid]$ (149)

$$\otimes [2X^{i}] \otimes [2|0\rangle \langle 0| + 2|1\rangle \langle 1|] \otimes [\delta_{j,0}X^{i} + \delta_{j+1,0}X^{i}]$$
(150)

- $= [X^{i}] \otimes [2Id] \otimes [2X^{i}] \otimes [2Id]$ (151)
 - $\otimes [2X^i] \otimes [2Id] \otimes [X^i] \qquad (152)$
- With this usual quantum double operators

$$B_{k} |n, [n']\rangle = \delta_{k,n} |n, [n']\rangle, A_{l} |n, [n']\rangle = \sum_{m} \Gamma_{mn'}^{\chi} (\overline{q_{ln\bar{l}}} lq_{n}) |ln\bar{l}, [m]\rangle$$
(153)

In abelian \mathbb{Z}_2 with $\chi = (i, [j])$, we get

$$D_{(k,l)}|n,[n']\rangle = B_k A_l |n,[n']\rangle$$
(154)

$$= B_k \sum_{m} \Gamma_{mn'}^{(i,[j])}(l) |n, [m]\rangle$$
(155)

$$=\delta_{k,i}\sum_{m}\Gamma_{mn'}^{(i,[j])}(l)|n,[m]\rangle$$
(156)

so $[D_{(k,l)}]_{11} = \delta_{k,i}\Gamma_{11}^{(i,[j])}(l)$. If j = 0 everything is mapped to 1. If j = 1, we map to $(-1)^l$. Thus the matrix element corresponds to $\delta_{k,i}(-1)^{jl}$.

• We showed above that $F^{(i,l)}(t) = 2 |0\rangle \langle 0| + 2 |1\rangle \langle 1| = 2Id$ on edges, $2X^i$ on edges crossed by the τ triangles, and X^i on the ends. Thus we have

$$\left[\frac{1}{2}X^{i}\right] \otimes \left[Id\right] \otimes \left[X^{i}\right] \otimes \left[Id\right] \tag{157}$$

$$\otimes [X^i] \otimes [Id] \otimes [\frac{1}{2}X^i] \tag{158}$$

$$+(-1)^{j}\left[\frac{1}{2}X^{i}\right] \otimes \left[Id\right] \otimes \left[X^{i}\right] \otimes \left[Id\right]$$
(159)

$$\otimes [X^i] \otimes [Id] \otimes [\frac{1}{2}X^i] \tag{160}$$

On edges crossed by τ , this is the operation by Z, and on edges on the ribbon itself, this is the operation by X if i = 1. These are the string operators from toric code.