

① Survey of Khovanov & Heegaard Floer homology

To Experts: $Rh(L)$ means $Rh(m(L))$
also need to choose pt to reduce along (suppressed from notation)

$LCS^3 \rightsquigarrow Rh(L) :$
link

$Y^3 \rightsquigarrow HF(Y)$
 $LCS^3 \rightsquigarrow HFL(Y, L)$
link (denoted HFK for knots)

Floer theoretic

Topological info

???

detects some

(detects Seifert genus:
Ozsváth-Szabó '03
detects fibredness: Ni '06)

surprisingly $\exists$ lots of similarities

$\exists$ Floer theoretic defⁿ for Rh : Seidel-Smith '04, Abouzaid-Smith '15
Agaragic '21, LePage-Stende '25

$\exists$ combinatorial defⁿ for HFL : Manolescu-Ozsváth-Sarkar '06

Manolescu, Rasmussen: LCS^3 noticed similarities bto $Rh(L)$ & $HF(\Sigma(L))$

Thm (Ozsváth-Szabó '03): $\exists$ spec. seqⁿ $Rh(L) \Rightarrow HF(\Sigma(L))$ over $F = \mathbb{Z}/2$

Reason why $\exists$ spec seqⁿ $Rh \Rightarrow$ some link homology thg $H(L)$:

crossing $\times$ of $L \rightsquigarrow$ unoriented resolⁿ: L_0 L_1

One sentence summary:
if $H(L)$ admits an unoriented skein exact Δ , then
(quite often) $\exists$ spec seqⁿ from Rh



If $\exists$ unoriented skein exact Δ ($\exists$ exact $H(L_0) \rightarrow H(L) \rightarrow H(L_1)$),
and can iterate it

$\rightsquigarrow$ unoriented cube of resolⁿ (like Rh but w/extra Δ)

$\rightsquigarrow$ get spec. seqⁿ $\Rightarrow H(L)$

show $H = Rh$ for very simple links & maps bto them (planar links, planar bands)

$\rightsquigarrow$ E page = Rh

Link Carried out many times: eg. Li '24 for HFK

② Survey of Rh and $\widehat{HFK}$:

Q. Rasmussen '05: Is $rk Rh(K) \geq rk \widehat{HFK}(S^3, K)$ for knots $K \subset S^3$?

Rmk "Stronger" than other statements: implies Rh detects the unknot $\bigcirc$ *sutured and*...

(proved by Kronheimer-Mrowka '16)

Thm (Dowlin '18) Yes, over $\mathbb{Q}$.

(Building on Ozsváth-Szabó '07, Manolescu '11, Beliakova-Putyra-Rolert-Wagner '22)

Rmk • Need to divide by 2 (doesn't work over $\mathbb{F}_2$)

• Need technical condition on the singular braid one starts with

$\exists$ "similar" spectral seq but in the spirit of Ozsváth-Szabó's double branched cover spec seq:

Kronheimer-Mrowka '10: LCY^3 link $\mapsto$ defined $I^h(Y, L)$, $I^\#(Y, L)$ $/ \mathbb{Z}$

"right Floer theoretic link mut" sit. (instantons) experts: I^h also needs distinguished pt to reduce along

① Can iterate unoriented Δ & $Rh(L) \Rightarrow I^h(S^3, L)$

$Rh(L) \Rightarrow I^\#(S^3, L)$

② behaves like $\widehat{HFK}$ for knots ($I^h(S^3, K)$ is a "sutured cut" (like $\widehat{HFK}$)

$\hookrightarrow$ can show Rh detects $\bigcirc$

(conj) (KM '08, '10) $K \subset S^3$ knot: $I^h(S^3, K) \cong \widehat{HFK}(S^3, K)$ $/ \mathbb{Q}$

④ Tricky in Heegaard Floer thy: Need the right link mut $H(L)$ sit.

① $\exists$ unoriented Δ ② $H(K) = \widehat{HFK}(S^3, K)$ for knots.

$\widehat{HFL}$ does NOT work:



$rk \widehat{HFL}$:	4	1	1
$rk Rh$:	2	1	1

$\exists$ "A_x": Manolescu '06: $\exists$ unoriented Δ for $\widehat{HFL}$ for "links w/ extra basepts" but does not agree w/ Rh

Baldwin-Levine '11: Iterated, but E_2 page not even a link inv

Baldwin-Levine-Sarkar '15: defined Rh for "links w/ extra basepts"

suggested new approach

But $\exists$ hope: Maybe we can find a HF inv like $\mathbb{Z}^b$

③ Statement of main result

Thm (N. 125) $L \subset S^3$ link, work over $\mathbb{F}_2$

$\exists$ Heegaard Floer theoretic invariants $HF^b(S, L)$, $HF^\#(S, L)$, $HF^X(S, L)$

① can iterate unoriented Δ

$$\widehat{Kh}(m(L)) \Rightarrow HF^b(S, L)$$

$$\leadsto Kh(m(L)) \Rightarrow HF^\#(S, L)$$

$$Kh^-(m(L)) \Rightarrow HF^X(S, L)$$

$$\textcircled{2} HF^b(S, K) = \widehat{HFK}(S, K) \text{ for knots.}$$

Remark 1) $HF^X, HF^\#, HF^b$ are variants of the unoriented link Floer homology

defined by Ozsváth-Yip-Szabo '15

2) rank neg, / if new, but conjectured to be weaker

3) Main contribution: noticing that unoriented link Floer homology is the right invariant to look at, constructing unoriented Δ , and iterating it

④ Khovanov homology

$L \subset S^3$ l -component $\text{link} \rightsquigarrow (\text{Kh}(L), \partial)$ free chain $\text{cp}x / \mathbb{Z}$

"invariant version" Lee '02, Rasmussen '04: $(\text{Kh}^-(L), \partial)$ free chain $\text{cp}x / \mathbb{Z}[u]$

A point $x \in L \rightsquigarrow$ ^{Hedden-Ni '12} "basepoint action" $\pi: \text{Kh}^-(L) \hookrightarrow \text{Kh}^-(L)$, $\pi^2 = u \cdot$

$(x, y) \in L$ on same component $\rightsquigarrow x \sim y \text{ up to } u$

So choose $x_i \in L_i$ i -th component,

$\text{Kh}^-(L)$ is a $\mathbb{Z}[x_1, \dots, x_l] / (x_1^2 = \dots = x_l^2)$ - mod
 $= \text{Kh}^-(L\text{-comp unlinks})$

Unreduced: $\text{Kh}(L) = \text{Kh}^-(L) / u$

Reduced: $\widetilde{\text{Kh}}(L, p) = \text{Kh}^-(L) / x_i \quad \forall p \in L_i$

Δ over $\mathbb{F}_2$, $\text{Kh}^- \cong \text{Kh} \otimes_{\mathbb{F}} \mathbb{F}[u]$ as $\mathbb{F}[u]$ -mods

Feature & not a bug?

⑤ Unoriented link Floer homology

Def Link Floer homology (Ozsváth-Szabó, Rasmussen)

$L \subset S^3$ l -component link

Put two basepts $w_i, z_i \in L_i$ (the i^{th} component)

Use a Heegaard diagram $\rightsquigarrow \text{Sym } M$, Lagrangians $\alpha, \beta \subset CM$

link Floer chain cpx $CFL(L) = "CF(\alpha, \beta)"$

free chain cpx over $\mathbb{F}[z_1, \dots, z_l, w_1, \dots, w_l] = \mathcal{R}$

$$= \bigoplus_{x \in \alpha \cap \beta} \mathcal{R} x$$

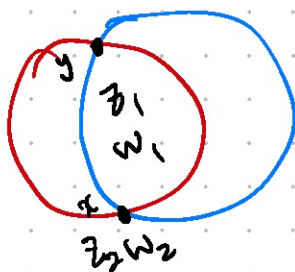
∂ : count index 1 curves, count z_i w/ weight z_i
 w_i w/ weight w_i

The hat version is $\widehat{CFL}(L) = CFL(L) \otimes_{\mathcal{R}} \mathcal{R} / (z_1, \dots, z_l, w_1, \dots, w_l)$

⚠ $\exists$ another convention: $\mathcal{R} = \mathbb{F}[u_1, \dots, u_l, v_1, \dots, v_l]$, $w_i \leftrightarrow u_i$, $z_i \leftrightarrow v_i$

Example $\bigcirc_{z_1, w_1} \bigcirc_{z_2, w_2}$

$M = S^2$



$$\mathcal{R}_x \xrightarrow{z_1 w_1 + z_2 w_2} \mathcal{R}_y$$

Baradzik-Lin-Zemke '21

Link on CFL , $\underline{z_i w_i}$ & $\underline{z_j w_j}$ htpic $\rightsquigarrow$ "u" action on homology
 $\Rightarrow u_i$ $\Rightarrow u_j$

Def Unoriented link Floer homology

"minus version": $CF^{\times}(L) = CF^{\times}(L) \otimes_{\mathcal{R}} \mathcal{R}/(z_1 - w_1, \dots, z_l - w_l)$

Convention: $z_i = w_i = u_i^{\frac{1}{2}}$. $u_i^{\frac{1}{2}}$: basept action

Δ Usually basept action in HF refers to sth else ($\Phi, \mathbb{P}$ closely related to Sarkis map'11)

i.e. work over $\mathbb{F}[u_1^{\frac{1}{2}}, \dots, u_l^{\frac{1}{2}}]$, and z_i, w_i have weight $u_i^{\frac{1}{2}}$

$\Rightarrow HF^{\times}(L)$ is an $\mathbb{F}[u_1^{\frac{1}{2}}, \dots, u_l^{\frac{1}{2}}]/(u_1 = \dots = u_l)$ -module. $\approx \mathbb{F}[u]$ -module
 $= HF^{\times}(l\text{-comp unlink})$

Rmk Original defⁿ: $CF(L) \otimes_{\mathcal{R}} \mathcal{R}/(z_1 = \dots = z_l = w_1 = \dots = w_l)$

$\Rightarrow$ Frøyshov type inv gives lower bound of unoriented four-ball genus

Def "Unreduced hat version": $CF^{\#}(L) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} CF^{\times}(L)/u_1$

$\Rightarrow HF^{\#}(L)$ is an $\mathbb{F}[u_1^{\frac{1}{2}}, \dots, u_l^{\frac{1}{2}}]/(u_1, \dots, u_l)$ -module

"reduced hat version": Choose a distinguished basept $p \in L$

$CF^b(L, p) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} CF^{\times}(L)/u_i^{\frac{1}{2}}$ where $p \in L_i$

Rmk If K is a knot, $CF^b(K, p) = CF^{\times}(K)/u_1^{\frac{1}{2}} = \widehat{CFK}(K)$

Rmk Ye suggested similar counterpart of $I^{\#}$ for knots in HF theory:

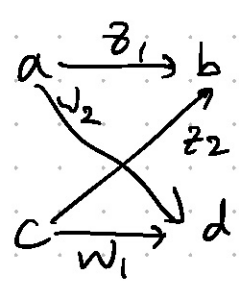
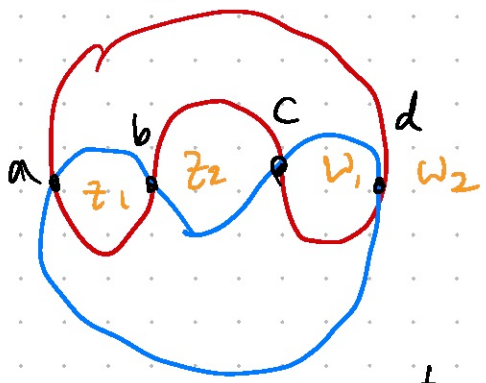
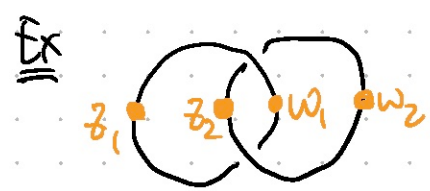
work over $\mathbb{Z}[u]/u^2$

z, w have weight $2u$

Lemma If L has l components, then

$$2^{l-1} \text{rk } HF^b(L, p) \geq \text{rk } \widehat{HFL}(L)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 2^{l-1} \text{rk } \widehat{Rk}(L) \geq \text{rk } \widehat{HFL}(L)$$



$$CF^X = \begin{array}{ccc} Ra & \xrightarrow{u_1^{\frac{1}{2}}} & Rb \\ & \searrow u_2^{\frac{1}{2}} & \nearrow u_2^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ Rc & \xrightarrow{u_1^{\frac{1}{2}}} & Rd \end{array} \quad R = \mathbb{F}[u_1^{\frac{1}{2}}, u_2^{\frac{1}{2}}]$$

$$CF^H(\bigcirc \bigcirc^P) = \begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{F}[u_1^{\frac{1}{2}}] & \xrightarrow{u_2^{\frac{1}{2}}} & \mathbb{F}[u_1^{\frac{1}{2}}] \\ \mathbb{F}[u_1^{\frac{1}{2}}] & \xrightarrow{u_1^{\frac{1}{2}}} & \mathbb{F}[u_1^{\frac{1}{2}}] \end{array} \quad rk = 2$$

⑤ Why $HF^{\#}(Y, \lambda)$?

Orig (Kunheuer-Mrowka) $I^{\#}(Y) \cong \widehat{HF}(Y)$ mod $\mathbb{Z}$

Thm (Bhat '24) let $K \subset Y^2$ knot, λ : framing, μ : meridian

$\exists$ exact Δ

$$I^{\#}(Y_{\lambda}(K)) \xrightarrow{F} I^{\#}(Y_{\lambda+2\mu}(K))$$

$\nwarrow \quad \nearrow$
 $I^{\#}(Y, K)$

$/\mathbb{Z}$

So reduces to finding analogue of F in Heegaard Floer

Turns out that $\exists$ two "natural" choices (Spin^c structure of $\mathbb{RP}^3$)

One was studied by Ozsváth-Szabó '01

The other one gives analogue of Bhat's Δ

Thm (N. '25): $\exists$ exact Δ

$$\widehat{HF}(Y_{\lambda}(K)) \xrightarrow{F} \widehat{HF}(Y_{\lambda+2\mu}(K))$$

$\nwarrow \quad \nearrow$
 $HF^{\#}(Y, K)$

$/\mathbb{F}$

(in fact, $\exists$ exact Δ $HF^{-} \rightarrow HF^{-}$ in completed version)

$\uparrow$
 $HF^{\#}$

Def $\exists$ different 2-surgery exact Δ :

Thm (Ozsváth-Szabó '01):

$$\widehat{HF}(Y_{\lambda}(K)) \xrightarrow{G} \widehat{HF}(Y_{\lambda+2\mu}(K))$$

$\nwarrow \quad \nearrow$
 $\widehat{HF}(Y, \mathbb{F}[2/2\mathbb{Z}]) \approx \widehat{HF}(Y) \oplus \widehat{HF}(Y)$
twisted by $[K] \in H_1(Y)$
if K null-homologous

⑦ Prod of unoriented Δ

Exact Δ 's on Floer theory:

① Represent the three chain cpxes as

$$CF(\alpha, \beta), CF(\alpha, \gamma), CF(\alpha, \delta) \quad (\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta \text{ on same } \Delta \text{ cat})$$

② define maps: Aov

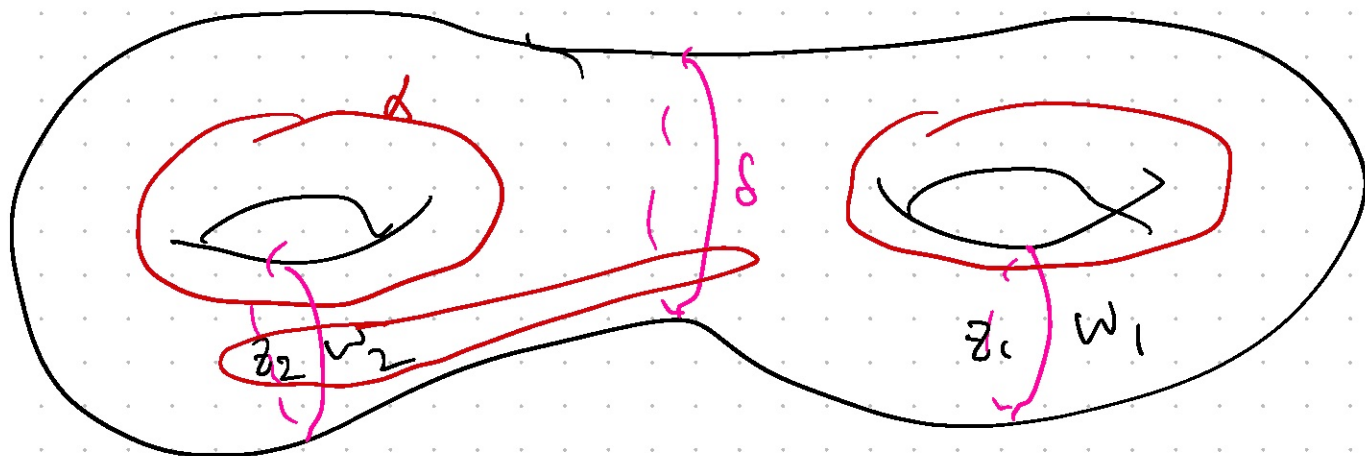
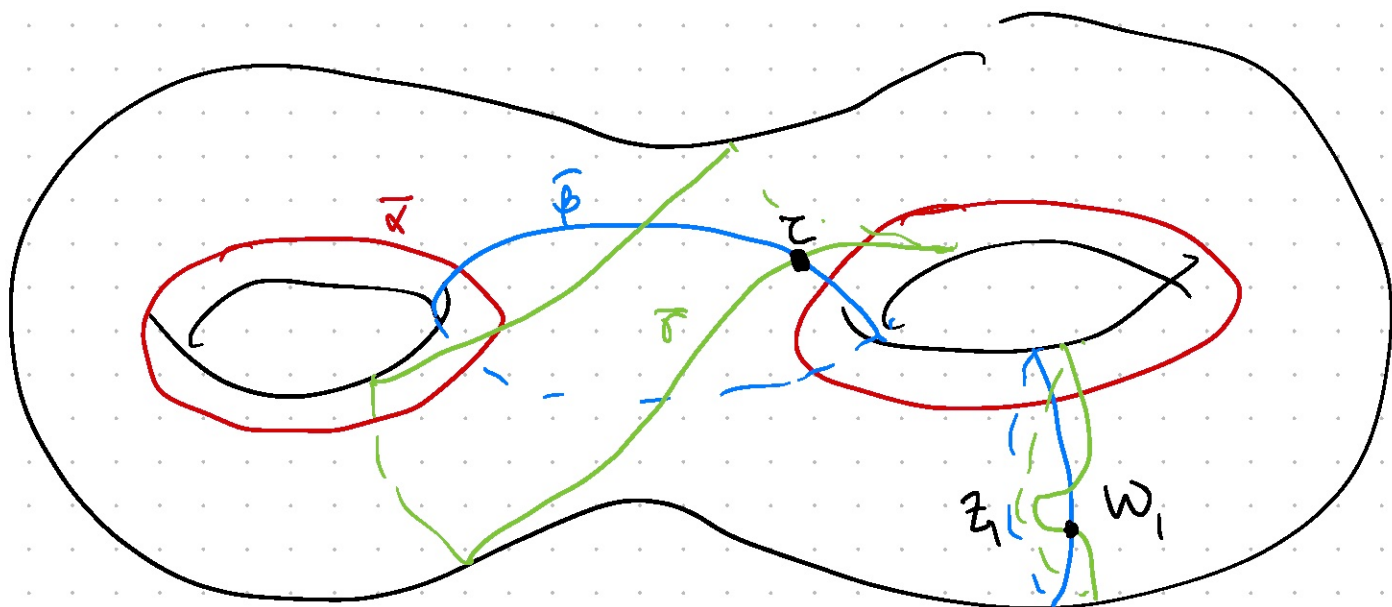
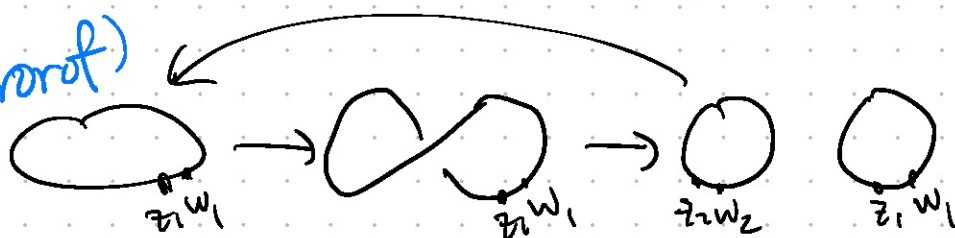
choose cycle $\theta \in CF(\beta, \gamma)$

$$\text{and define } CF(\alpha, \beta) \xrightarrow{-\otimes \theta} CF(\alpha, \beta) \otimes CF(\beta, \gamma) \xrightarrow{\mu_2} CF(\alpha, \gamma)$$

③ use the "triangle detection lemma" (often reduces to a local computation)

$$\text{in other words, show } \beta \xrightarrow{\theta} \gamma \cong \delta$$

Ex
(minorot)



Challenge; Heegaard diagrams are different

$$CF(\bar{\alpha}, \bar{\beta}), CF(\bar{\alpha}, \bar{\gamma}) : \text{ over } \mathbb{F}[U_1^{\pm}, U_2^{\pm}] \quad \text{--- (A)}$$

$$CF(\alpha, \delta) : \text{ over } \mathbb{F}[U_1^{\pm}, U_2^{\pm}] \quad \text{--- (B)}$$

Solⁿ: meet in the middle work over $\mathbb{F}[U_1^{\pm}, U_2^{\pm}]$

(A): Ozsváth-Szabó, Manolescu-Ozsváth, Zemke:

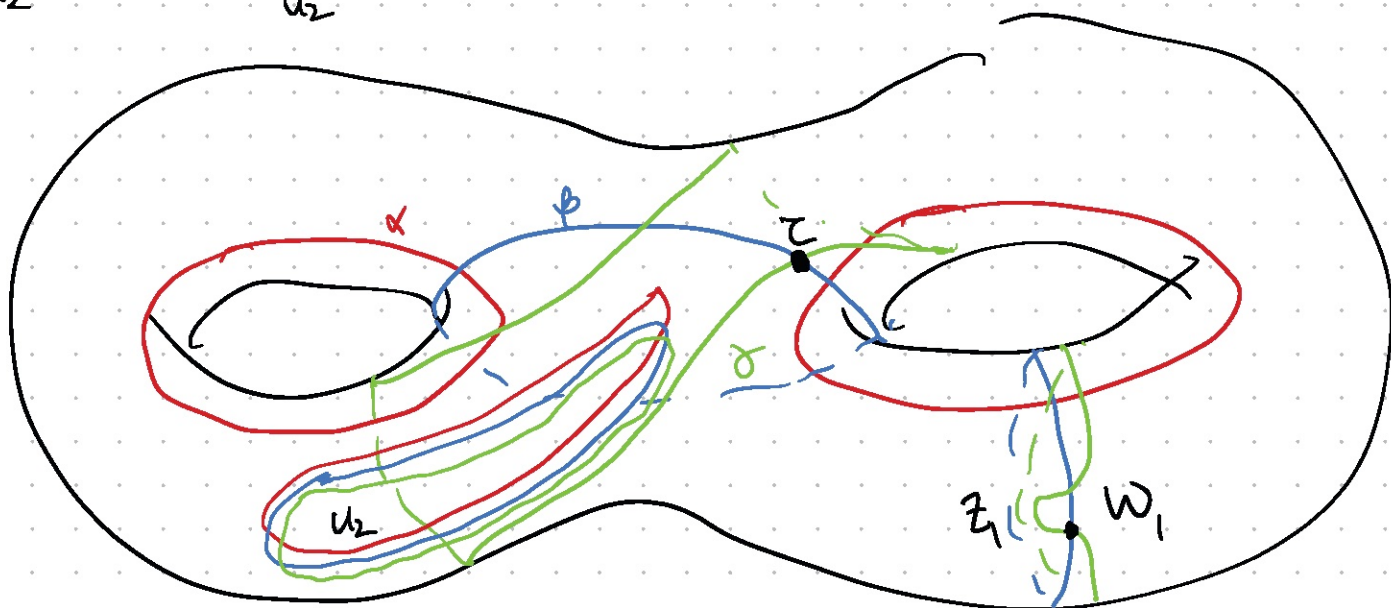
Given HD $\mathcal{H}$ & work over R .

$$\mathcal{H}^{\text{stab}} = \mathcal{H} \# \text{ (diagram) }$$

$$\Rightarrow CF_{\mathcal{H}}(\alpha, \beta) \subset CF_{\mathcal{H}^{\text{stab}}}(\alpha, \beta)$$

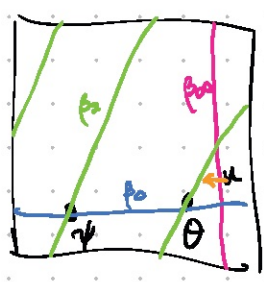
work over $R[U]$, u has weight U

Interpretation: "add a braid in the ambient 3 mfd"



③: Similar "challenge" for the 2-surgery exact Δ 's:

Use local systems!



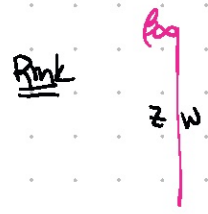
Ozsváth-Szabó:

$$\beta_0 \xrightarrow{\gamma} \beta_2 \simeq \beta_\infty^E \leftarrow \text{rank 2 local system}$$

$$E = e_0[FU] \oplus e_1[FU]$$

$$\phi = e_1 e_0^* + e_0 e_1^*$$

get $\phi^\# (\leftarrow \cap \partial_{\beta_0} D)$



$$\widehat{CF}(Y; F[\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}]) \simeq CFK(Y, K) \otimes_{F[\mathbb{Z}, W]} E$$

where z acts as ϕ
 w acts as $u\phi^{-1}$

HF analogue of Bhat:

$$\beta_0 \xrightarrow{\theta} \beta_2 \simeq \beta_\infty^{E_u} \leftarrow \text{rank 2}$$

gives unoriented link Floer

$$E_u = e_0[FU] \oplus e_1[FU]$$

$$\phi_u = e_1 e_0^* + u e_0 e_1^*$$

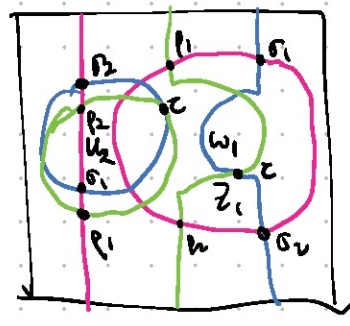
$$E_u \cong F[U^{\pm}] = F[\mathbb{Z}, W] / (z=w)$$

$\Delta \nexists$ subtlety since $\phi_u^{-1} = u^{-1} e_1 e_0^* + e_0 e_1^*$ involves negative powers of u

$\leadsto$ Need to check "positivity" (cf, Zemke '23)

good if ≤ 2 objs w/ nontrivial local system

Now can run traditional strategy



$$\beta \xrightarrow{z} \gamma \simeq \delta^{E_u}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \beta &\xrightarrow{z} \gamma \\ &\downarrow e_0 p_1 + e_0 p_2 \\ &\delta^{E_u} \\ &\downarrow e_1^* r_1 + e_1^* r_2 \\ &\beta \xrightarrow{z} \gamma \end{aligned}$$

⑧ Pf of spectral seqⁿ

Step 1. Construct Aoo category

obj: $\alpha, \beta \in$ for each resolution $\in \{x, \sim, x'\}$ ^{#crossings}

$$CF^X(L_\varepsilon) = CF(\alpha, \beta_\varepsilon)$$

△ Positivity : for each U_i , want ≤ 2 β_ε 's where U_i 's can arise
 vs don't reuse basepts

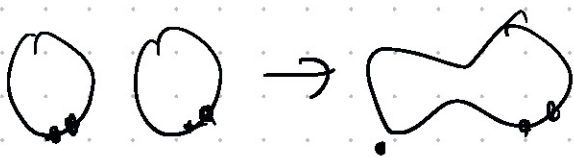
New basepts for each β_ε

1 crossing: $\beta_{x,c} \rightarrow \beta_{\sim,c} \simeq \beta_{x'}$

2 crossings: $\beta_{x,c} \rightarrow \beta_{x,\sim}$
 $\beta_{x',c} \rightarrow \beta_{\sim,\sim}$
 $\simeq \beta_{x',x'}$

Step 2: Check band maps commute up to htyg

△ The most obvious choice doesn't work.



∃ 2 choices



vs modify band maps so that it works

Step 3. Check higher commutativity: grading argument

the Aoo subcategory of β_ε 's has a homological $\mathbb{Z}$ -grading

Say $h\text{-gr}$ of $HF(\beta_\varepsilon, \beta_{\varepsilon'})$ is 0 for $|\varepsilon - \varepsilon'| = 1$

g.v.o

Then: $HF(\beta_\varepsilon, \beta_{\varepsilon'})$ is supported on $h\text{-gr} \leq 0$