Brewing moonshine for Mathieu

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To John McKay, for inspiration

Abstract

We propose a moonshine for the sporadic Mathieu group M_{12} that relates its conjugacy classes to various modular forms and Borcherds Kac-Moody superalgebras.

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1 Introduction

Moonshine is not a well defined term, but everyone in the area recognizes it when they see it. Roughly speaking, it means weird connections between modular forms and sporadic simple groups. It can also be extended to include related areas such as infinite dimensional Lie algebras or complex hyperbolic reflection groups. Also, it should only be applied to things that are weird and special: if there are an infinite number of examples of something, then it is not moonshine. -R. E. Borcherds [1]

In this paper, we propose a moonshine for the sporadic Mathieu group M_{12} in the spirit of the above statement. This is best summarized in the following figure:

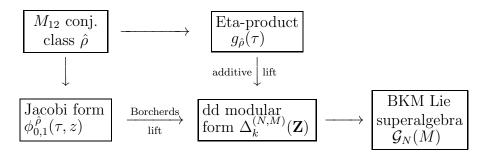


Figure 1: The proposed moonshine correspondence for M_{12}

Recent results have provided evidence for the existence of a moonshine for the Mathieu group M_{24} [2–7]. This moonshine in its most general form relates conjugacy classes of M_{24} to genus-two Siegel modular forms that arise in the enumeration of dyonic degeneracies in a family of $\mathcal{N} = 4$ string theories [8– 11] (see [12] for a review). Somewhat mysteriously, in some cases the squareroot of these Siegel modular forms appear as the Weyl-Kac-Borcherds (WKB) denominator formulae for Borcherds-Kac-Moody (BKM) Lie superalgebras [13, 14]. This work is an attempt at understanding the 'square-root' in terms of an outer automorphism of M_{12} that leads to M_{24} .

The canonical example that illustrates these ideas is the conjugacy class $1A(1^{24})$ of M_{24} . The M_{24} moonshine maps this to the weight ten Igusa cusp form, $\Phi_{10}(\mathbf{Z})$. It's square-root is a weight five Siegel modular form (with character) $\Delta_5(\mathbf{Z})$. Gritsenko and Nikulin, in their studies of rank three Lorentzian Kac-Moody algebras [15,16], have shown that $\Delta_5(\mathbf{Z})$ arises as the WKB denominator formula of a BKM Lie superalgebra. Clery and Gritsenko have constructed a family of modular forms that they call *dd modular forms* that generalize $\Delta_5(\mathbf{Z})$ [17]. In an earlier paper [18], we have shown that all *dd modular forms* appear as the square roots of Siegel modular forms that enumerate dyon degeneracies and that they arise as the WKB denominator formulae for rank three BKM Lie superalgebras. The *main result* of this paper is to show that *all* dd modular forms

and their associated BKM Lie superalgebras are associated with a generalized moonshine for the sporadic group M_{12} .

The organization of the paper is as follows. In section two, we summarise the group theoretic aspects that are relevant for our considerations. We work out the relationship between M_{12} and M_{24} and show how one can track conjugacy classes of M_{24} to those of M_{12} . In section three, we work out the first class of examples. These associate conjugacy classes of M_{12} with balanced cycle shapes to multiplicative eta-products, weight zero Jacobi forms of index one and dd modular forms. In section four, we consider a generalized moonshine for M_{12} in the sense of Norton. This leads to the other dd modular forms as well as weight zero Jacobi forms of index > 1. We conclude in section 5 with some remarks. Appendix A has some of the relevant group theoretic details while appendix B has some of the background material on modular forms.

Notation: We use a hat to distinguish objects associated with M_{12} from those associated with M_{24} . Thus a conjugacy class of M_{12} will be indicated by $\hat{\rho}$ while that of M_{24} will be ρ . Characters of M_{12} will be thus written as $\hat{\chi}_i$ while characters of M_{12} :2 are written with a tilde: $\tilde{\chi}_i$.

2 Group Theory

2.1 A quirk

As described by Mark Ronan [19], the Mathieu groups M_{12} and M_{24} arise due to the existence of certain quirks. Among all the permutation groups, only S_6 admits an outer automorphism of order two that leads to M_{12} . In particular, one can show that the group $S_6 \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_2$ constructed using this outer automorphism is a maximal subgroup of M_{12} . Similarly, M_{12} admits an outer automorphism of order two that leads to M_{24} in a similar fashion. Let us denote this automorphism of M_{12} by φ and the image of an element $g \in M_{12}$ under this automorphism by $\varphi(g)$. The group $M_{12}: 2 \equiv M_{12} \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_2$ is given by the set $M_{12} \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ with the composition rule:

$$(g_1, h_1) \cdot (g_2, h_2) = (g_1 \cdot h_1(g_2), h_1 \cdot h_2) , \qquad (2.1)$$

where $g_1, g_2 \in M_{12}$ and $h_1, h_2 \in \mathbb{Z}_2$ and h(g) = g when h = e and $h(g) = \varphi(g)$ when $h = \varphi$.

Now consider the realization of M_{12} as a subgroup of the permutation group S_{12} and let us use the same symbol g to now indicate the 12×12 permutation matrix in this realization. The 24-dimensional representation of the group $M_{12}:2$ is then given by

$$(g,e) = \begin{pmatrix} g & 0\\ 0 & \varphi(g) \end{pmatrix}$$
, $(g,\varphi) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & g\\ \varphi(g) & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ $\forall g \in M_{12}$. (2.2)

The group $M_{12}: 2$ is a maximal subgroup of M_{24} . In the sequel, the conjugacy classes associated with elements of type $(g, e) \in M_{12}: 2$ will play an important role in our considerations.

2.2 Conjugacy classes of M_{12} and M_{12} :2

 M_{12} has fifteen conjugacy classes and the outer automorphism φ acts on the conjugacy classes of M_{12} . It interchanges the conjugacy classes (cycle shapes),

$$4A (2^2 4^2) \leftrightarrow 4B (1^4 4^2)$$
; $8A (4 8) \leftrightarrow 8B (1^2 2 8)$ and $11A \leftrightarrow 11B$,

leaving all other conjugacy classes invariant. This observation enables us to track how conjugacy classes of M_{12} combine into conjugacy classes of M_{12} : 2 using the 24-dimensional representation that we just constructed. For instance, the cycle shape $1^{8}2^{8}(2B)$ of M_{12} : 2 decomposes into two identical copies of the M_{12} conjugacy class $1^{4}2^{4}(2B)$, the cycle shape $1^{4}2^{2}4^{4}(4A)$ of M_{12} : 2 decomposes as $1^{4}4^{2}(4B)$ and $2^{2}4^{2}(4A)$. It is easy to see that both these elements arise in M_{12} : 2 in the form of (g, e). Of course, M_{12} : 2 has conjugacy classes that do not reduce to conjugacy classes of M_{12} in this fashion. One such class is the one corresponding to the cycle shape $4^{6}(4C)$.

Since both $M_{12}: 2$ and M_{24} have 24 dimensional (permutation) representations, it is rather easy to track conjugacy classes directly in terms of cycle shapes. We find that among the cycle shapes that appear in the half-BPS counting, only the cycle shape $1^{3}7^{3}(7A)$ does not appear as a conjugacy class of $M_{12}: 2$. This implies that all symplectic automorphisms of K3 other than the \mathbb{Z}_{7} one can also be considered as elements of $M_{12}: 2$. In Table 1, we track how some conjugacy classes of M_{24} realized by group elements of the form (g, e) given in Eq. (2.2) decompose into M_{12} conjugacy classes.

Balanced cycle shapes

A cycle shape, $\rho = 1^{a_1} 2^{a_2} \cdots N^{a_N}$, is said to be balanced if there exists a positive integer M such that $\left(\frac{M}{1}\right)^{a_1} \left(\frac{M}{2}\right)^{a_2} \cdots \left(\frac{M}{n}\right)^{a_n}$ is the same as ρ . It is known that all conjugacy classes of M_{24} arise from balanced cycle shapes [20]. However, that is not necessarily true for all M_{12} conjugacy classes. We observe that the cycle shapes associated with the M_{12} conjugacy classes 4B and 8B are *not* balanced.

2.3 Irreps of M_{12} and M_{12} :2

The decomposition of irreps of $M_{12}:2$ into those of M_{12} can also be worked out. For instance, $22 = 11 \oplus 11'$ where 11' is the image of 11 under the action of the outer automorphism φ . Similarly 16' is the image of 16 and 55' is the image of 55. All other irreps of M_{12} are invariant under the action of φ . Such irreps arise from two inequivalent irreps of $M_{12}:2$ of the same dimension.

ρ	1^{24}	$1^{8}2^{8}$	$1^{6}3^{6}$	$1^4 2^2 4^4$	$1^{4}5^{4}$	$1^2 2^2 3^2 6^2$	$1^{3}7^{3}$	$1^2 2^1 4^1 8^2$
M_{24} class	1A	2A	3A	4B	5A	6A	7A	8A
$M_{12}:2$ class	1A	2B	3A	4A	5A	6B	—	8A
M_{12} classes	1A/1A	$2\mathrm{B}/2\mathrm{B}$	3A/3A	4A/4B	5A/5A	$6\mathrm{B}/6\mathrm{B}$	—	8A/8B

Table 1: From M_{24} cycle shapes to M_{12} cycle shapes [21].

3 The correspondence

3.1 Additive M_{12} moonshine

The additive version of the M_{24} moonshine correspondence relates cycle shapes of M_{24} to multiplicative eta-products through the map [22–24]:

$$\rho = 1^{a_1} 2^{a_2} \cdots N^{a_N} \longmapsto g_\rho(\tau) \equiv \prod_{j=1}^N \eta(j\tau)^{a_j} , \qquad (3.1)$$

where $\eta(\tau)$ is the Dedekind eta function. These eta-products appear as the generating function of the degeneracy of twisted electrically charged $\frac{1}{2}$ -BPS states in type IIA string theory compactified on $K3 \times T^2$ [2]. Among the conjugacy classes of M_{24} that appear in this fashion, all classes other than the $7A = 1^37^3$ conjugacy class reduce to conjugacy classes of M_{12} :2.

We propose that the additive version of the M_{12} moonshine correspondence relates M_{12} conjugacy classes to eta-products through the map Eq. (3.1). Thus, the eta-product for the M_{12} conjugacy class 2B is $\eta(\tau)^4 \eta(2\tau)^4$. In all cases except for 4A and 8A,¹ one observes that this corresponds to taking the square-root of a M_{24} eta-product. This is similar to McKay's observation (proved in [25]) that the cube-root of the modular invariant j provides a moonshine for the group E_8 . We thus have the relationship

$$g_{\rho}(\tau) = g_{\hat{\rho}}(\tau) \times g_{\varphi(\hat{\rho})}(\tau) , \qquad (3.2)$$

where ρ is a conjugacy class of M_{24} (as well as $M_{12}:2$) and $\hat{\rho}$ is a conjugacy class of M_{12} . In the last row of Table 1, we write $\hat{\rho}/\varphi(\hat{\rho})$ to indicate the two conjugacy classes of M_{12} into which a given conjugacy class of M_{24} decomposes.

In appendix A.4, we show that all M_{12} conjugacy classes with balanced cycle shapes give rise to multiplicative eta-products. Unlike M_{24} whose conjugacy classes all have balanced cycle shapes, two M_{12} conjugacy classes 4B and 8Bhave unbalanced cycle shapes and hence we shall exclude them from most of our considerations. We shall also distinguish between M_{12} conjugacy classes that

¹This happens as the outer-automorphism of M_{12} acts non-trivially on these two conjugacy classes.

reduce to conjugacy classes of M_{11} and those that don't. The one's that do (reduce to M_{11} conjugacy classes) have cycle shapes with at least one one-cycle.

The M_{12} -module that leads to the eta-product is easy to construct. It is given by the Fock space, \mathcal{F}^{\natural} , of the oscillator (non-zero) modes of 12 chiral scalars. As can be seen from a computation more or less identical to the one discussed in the appendix A of [18]. The following trace over the Fock space can be expressed in terms of M_{12} characters. One has

$$\frac{1}{g_{\hat{\rho}}(\tau)} = \operatorname{Tr}_{\mathcal{F}^{\natural}}\left(g \ q^{L_0 - 1/2}\right),
= q^{-1/2}\left(1 + \left[1 + \hat{\chi}_2(\hat{\rho})\right] q + \left[3 + 3\hat{\chi}_2(\hat{\rho}) + \hat{\chi}_7(\hat{\rho})\right] q^2 + \cdots\right), \quad (3.3)$$

where g is an element of M_{12} (in the conjugacy class $\hat{\rho}$ with balanced cycle shape) acting as a subgroup of the permutation group on the 12 chiral scalars and the characters are numbered as in the M_{12} character table(see Eq. (A.1)). One can also see the appearance of M_{12} characters in the Fourier coefficients expansion of $q^{-1/2} g_{\hat{\rho}}(\tau)$. One also has

$$q^{-1/2} g_{\hat{\rho}}(\tau) = 1 - \left[1 + \hat{\chi}_2(\hat{\rho})\right] q + \left[-1 + \hat{\chi}_9(\hat{\rho})\right] q^2 + \cdots$$
 (3.4)

3.2 Multiplicative M_{12} moonshine

As we just did for the additive M_{12} moonshine, we shall first consider the multiplicative version of moonshine that appears for M_{24} [3–7] and show that it implies a multiplicative moonshine for M_{12} as well. The multiplicative moonshine correspondence for M_{24} maps its conjugacy classes to weight zero Jacobi forms that arise as twisted elliptic genera of K3 [10,11,26]. The appearance of representations of M_{24} is seen by decomposing the elliptic genus in terms of characters of the $\mathcal{N} = 4$ superconformal algebra (SCA) at level k = 1 [27–29]. In the expansion below, α is a constant while $\Sigma(\tau)$ is a function of τ .

$$\psi_{0,1}^{\rho}(\tau,z) = \alpha^{\rho} \ \mathcal{C}(\tau,z) + q^{-\frac{1}{8}} \ \Sigma^{\rho}(\tau) \ \mathcal{B}(\tau,z) \ , \tag{3.5}$$

where $C(\tau, z)$ is the massless character and $\mathcal{B}(\tau, z)$ is the massive character of the $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SCA at level one and ρ denotes a M_{24} conjugacy class. The characters are such that

$$C(\tau, z = 0) = 1$$
 and $B(\tau, z = 0) = 0$.

Hence, it is easy to show that $\alpha^{\rho} = \chi^{\rho}(K3)$, the twisted Euler characteristic of K3. The M_{24} moonshine correspondence implies that

$$\alpha^{\rho} = \chi_1(\rho) + \chi_{23}(\rho) ,$$

where χ_N represents the character for the M_{24} -irrep of dimension N [3,4]. The function $\Sigma^{\rho}(\tau)$ has the following Fourier expansion

$$\Sigma^{\rho}(\tau) = \left(-2 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A^{\rho}(n) q^n\right), \qquad (3.6)$$

where $A^{\rho}(n)$ are integers that can also be expressed in terms of characters of M_{24} [3–7]. One has

$$\Sigma^{\rho}(\tau) = -2 + [\chi_{45}(\rho) + \chi_{\overline{45}}(\rho)] q + [\chi_{231}(\rho) + \chi_{\overline{231}}(\rho)] q^{2} + [\chi_{770}(\rho) + \chi_{\overline{770}}(\rho)] q^{3} + [\chi_{2277}(\rho) + \chi_{\overline{2277}}(\rho)] q^{4} + \cdots \quad (3.7)$$

As we did for the case of the additive moonshine, we look to rewrite the conjugacy classes of M_{24} that appear in the multiplicative moonshine in terms of M_{12} conjugacy classes. In other words, we seek a relationship of the form

$$\alpha^{\rho} = \widehat{\alpha}^{\,\hat{\rho}} + \widehat{\alpha}^{\,\varphi(\hat{\rho})} \,, \tag{3.8}$$

$$\Sigma^{\rho}(\tau) = \widehat{\Sigma}^{\hat{\rho}}(\tau) + \widehat{\Sigma}^{\varphi(\hat{\rho})}(\tau) , \qquad (3.9)$$

where we decompose the M_{24} conjugacy class ρ in terms of two conjugacy classes of M_{12} that we denote by $\hat{\rho}$ and its image under the outer automorphism $\varphi(\hat{\rho})$. This works for all M_{24} conjugacy classes given in Table except for 7A which does not reduce to a conjugacy class of M_{12} :2.

Given a conjugacy class $\hat{\rho}$ of M_{12} , we consider the Jacobi form of weight zero and index one given by

$$\phi_{0,1}^{\hat{\rho}}(\tau,z) = \hat{\alpha}^{\hat{\rho}} \mathcal{C}(\tau,z) + q^{-\frac{1}{8}} \hat{\Sigma}^{\hat{\rho}}(\tau) \mathcal{B}(\tau,z) , \qquad (3.10)$$

where $\widehat{\alpha}^{\,\hat{\rho}} = 1 + \widehat{\chi}_2(\hat{\rho})$ and

$$\widehat{\Sigma}^{\hat{\rho}}(\tau) = -1 + \widehat{\chi}_{6}(\hat{\rho}) \ q + [\widehat{\chi}_{8}(\hat{\rho}) + \widehat{\chi}_{15}(\hat{\rho})] \ q^{2} \\ + [\widehat{\chi}_{11}(\hat{\rho}) + 2 \ \widehat{\chi}_{13}(\hat{\rho}) + 2 \ \widehat{\chi}_{14}(\hat{\rho}) + \widehat{\chi}_{15}(\hat{\rho})] \ q^{3} + \cdots$$
(3.11)

The above formulae are obtained by using the decomposition of M_{24} irreps into M_{12} irreps as given in appendix A.3. Thus, one has

$$\psi_{0,1}^{\rho}(\tau,z) = \widehat{\psi}_{0,1}^{\hat{\rho}}(\tau,z) + \widehat{\psi}_{0,1}^{\varphi(\hat{\rho})}(\tau,z) \quad . \tag{3.12}$$

It is easy to see that for conjugacy classes that are invariant under the outer automorphism, one has $\psi_{0,1}^{\rho}(\tau, z) = 2\widehat{\psi}_{0,1}^{\hat{\rho}}(\tau, z)$. However, the M_{24} conjugacy classes $\rho = 4B, 8A$ decompose into distinct M_{12} conjugacy classes, one of which is not balanced and we will not consider them.

3.3 The genus-two Siegel modular form

3.3.1 The additive lift

Let g denote an element of M_{24} (that reduces to an element of M_{23}) whose conjugacy class is ρ . It has been shown in ref. [18] that the degeneracy of gtwisted $\frac{1}{4}$ -BPS multiplets in the T^6 compactified heterotic string is generated by a genus-two Siegel modular form. This Siegel modular form is obtained as the additive lift of a Jacobi form of weight k, index 1 and level N given by

$$\phi_{k,1}^{\rho}(\tau,z) \equiv \frac{\theta_1(\tau,z)^2}{\eta(\tau)^6} \times g_{\rho}(\tau) , \qquad (3.13)$$

where $k = \frac{1}{2}(\sum_{i} a_{i}) - 2$ and we have indicated the M_{24} conjugacy class as a superscript. The Siegel modular form is then given by the additive lift of the Jacobi form, $\phi_{k,1}(\tau, z)$. One has [9,18]

$$\Phi_k^{\rho}(\mathbf{Z}) = \mathcal{A}\Big[\phi_{k,1}(\tau, z)\Big] = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \phi_{k,m}^{\rho}(\tau, z) \ s^m , \qquad (3.14)$$

where $\mathbf{Z} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} \tau & z \\ z & \sigma \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{H}_2$, $r = \exp(2\pi i z)$ and $\phi_{k,m}^{\rho}(\tau, z)$ is a Jacobi form of weight k and index m obtained by the action of the Hecke operator on the additive seed $\phi_{k,1}^{\rho}(\tau, z)$:

$$\phi_{k,m}^{\rho}(\tau,z) \equiv T_{-}^{(N)}(m)\phi_{k,1}(\tau,z)$$

$$= \frac{1}{m} \sum_{\substack{ad=m \\ (a,N)=1}} \sum_{b=0}^{d-1} \chi(a) \ a^{k} \ \phi_{k,1}^{\rho}(\frac{a\tau+b}{d},az) \ . \tag{3.15}$$

This is *not* the most general form of the additive lift. We have given the simplest case in order to emphasize the fact that the new Jacobi forms are determined completely in terms of the additive seed².

Given that the eta-product uniquely determines the Siegel modular form, $\Phi_k^{\rho}(\mathbf{Z})$ one anticipates that this Siegel modular form should also be obtained as a trace over some module graded by M_{24} . Evidence towards the veracity of this statement is provided in ref. [30]. Given our observation in Eq. (3.2), that the M_{24} eta-products split into two M_{12} eta-products, we expect something similar to happen with the Siegel modular form, $\Phi_k^{\rho}(\mathbf{Z})$. In other words, we expect in all the cases where the eta product split, the Siegel modular form also splits into the product of two other Siegel modular forms as follows:

$$\Phi^{\rho}(\mathbf{Z}) = \Delta^{\hat{\rho}}(\mathbf{Z}) \times \Delta^{\varphi(\hat{\rho})}(\mathbf{Z}) , \qquad (3.16)$$

²The most general Hecke operator that appears in the $\frac{1}{4}$ -BPS counting is discussed by Clery and Gritsenko [17, 18].

where ρ is a conjugacy class of M_{24} (as well as $M_{12}:2$) and $\hat{\rho}$ is a conjugacy class of M_{12} . Let us focus on conjugacy classes of M_{12} that are invariant under the outer automorphism. In particular, consider the conjugacy classes 1A, 2B, 3Aand 5A. In all these cases, this implies that

$$\Phi_k^{\rho}(\mathbf{Z}) = \left[\Delta_{k/2}^{\hat{\rho}}(\mathbf{Z})\right]^2 \tag{3.17}$$

This indeed agrees with the observations made in ref. [13] where it was shown that the Siegel modular forms $\Delta_{k/2}^{\hat{\rho}}(\mathbf{Z})$ are natural generalizations of $\Delta_5(\mathbf{Z})$ which is the square-root of the weight ten Igusa cusp form. Further, it was shown that they are given by the additive lift

$$\Delta_{k/2}^{\hat{\rho}}(\mathbf{Z}) = \mathcal{A}\left[\frac{\theta_1(\tau,z)}{\eta(\tau)^3} \times g_{\hat{\rho}}(\tau)\right], \qquad (3.18)$$

where $g_{\hat{\rho}}(\tau)$ is the eta-product associated with the M_{12} conjugacy class, $\hat{\rho}$. In other words, the additive lift given above provides a direct link between the Siegel modular forms $\Delta_{k/2}(\mathbf{Z})$ and M_{12} conjugacy classes that parallels what happened between the $\Phi_k(\mathbf{Z})$ and M_{24} conjugacy classes. In most examples, these Siegel modular forms are examples of the *dd modular forms* of Clery and Gritsenko [17].

The splitting of conjugacy class 4B

The M_{24} conjugacy class 4B is an interesting one. From table 1, we see that it splits into two *distinct* M_{12} conjugacy classes 4A and 4B.³. This suggests that we should expect a splitting of the form:

$$\Phi_3^{4B}(\mathbf{Z}) = \Delta_2^{4A}(\mathbf{Z}) \times \Delta_1^{4B}(\mathbf{Z}) ,$$

where the modular forms $\Delta^{\hat{\rho}}(\mathbf{Z})$ are given by the additive lift given in Eq. (3.18). In particular, the Siegel modular form, $\Delta_1^{4A}(\mathbf{Z})$, corresponding to $\hat{\rho} = 4A$ (cycle shape 2^24^4) has already appeared in [18, see sec. 3] where it was denoted by $Q_1(\mathbf{Z})$ and can be expressed in terms of genus-two theta constants (see appendix B). The Siegel modular form $\Phi_3^{4B}(\mathbf{Z})$ was constructed in [2] and is also expressible in terms of products of genus-two theta constants. The modular form for $\Delta_2^{4B}(\mathbf{Z})$ has not been constructed so far. However, it can be expressed as the quotient of $\Phi_3^{4B}(\mathbf{Z})$ by $\Delta_2^{4A}(\mathbf{Z})$.

$$\Delta_2^{4B}(\mathbf{Z}) = \frac{\Phi_3^{4B}(\mathbf{Z})}{\Delta_1^{4A}(\mathbf{Z})} .$$
 (3.19)

Does it imply that it is a meromorphic form? Interestingly, that doesn't happen as all the genus-two theta constants that appear in $\Delta_1^{4A}(\mathbf{Z})$ also occur in $\Phi_3^{4B}(\mathbf{Z})$ leading to a neat cancellation! Thus, $\Delta_2^{4B}(\mathbf{Z})$ is not a meromorphic modular form. Further, the M_{12} conjugacy class 4B does not have a balanced cycle shape and hence is not considered.

³This splitting is different from the square-root of $\Phi_3^{4B}(\mathbf{Z})$ considered in [2] The additive seed in that case arises from the cycle shape $1^2 24^2$ which does not occur as a M_{12} conjugacy class.

The conjugacy classes 6A and 8A

The M_{24} conjugacy class 6A splits into two copies of the M_{12} conjugacy class 6B. Thus we expect it behave in a fashion similar to 1A. The M_{24} conjugacy class 8A behaves like the 4B conjugacy class and splits into two distinct conjugacy classes 8A/8B as can be seen from Table 1. The corresponding modular forms have been constructed by the additive lift in [2] but have not been extensively studied. Further, the M_{12} conjugacy class 8B does not have a balanced cycle shape.

3.3.2 The multiplicative lift

We have seen that the twisted elliptic genera of K3, $\psi_{0,1}^{\rho}(\tau, z)$, which provide a multiplicative moonshine for M_{24} also can be written as the sum of two terms each arising from a conjugacy class of M_{12} as given in Eq. (3.12). It turns out that these twisted elliptic genera lead to product formulae for the Siegel modular forms $\Phi_k^{\rho}(\mathbf{Z})$. Similarly, the Jacobi forms $\widehat{\psi}_{0,1}^{\rho}(\tau, z)$ provide a product formula for $\Delta^{\hat{\rho}}(\mathbf{Z})$. In particular, for the conjugacy classes, $\rho = 1A, 2A, 3A, 5A$, of M_{24} , the relationship $\psi_{0,1}^{\rho}(\tau, z) = 2 \ \widehat{\psi}_{0,1}^{\hat{\rho}}(\tau, z)$ is consistent with the $\Phi_k^{\rho}(\mathbf{Z})$ being the square of $\Delta^{\hat{\rho}}(\mathbf{Z})$. This should also hold in principle for the conjugacy class 6Abut we have not checked this as the multiplicative lift has not been constructed (see [2,31] for some details in this regard).

However, the conjugacy class 4B appears to lead to a different Siegel modular form. In particular, the product formula for $\Delta_1^{4B}(\mathbf{Z})$ arises from a Jacobi form of weight zero and index *two* [18]. Thus, it appears to us that $\phi_{0,1}^{4B}(\tau, z)$ does not generate a product formula for the Siegel modular form generated by the additive lift $\Delta_1^{4B}(\mathbf{Z})$. As we will discuss later, 4B is a conjugacy class of M_{12} that does not descend to a conjugacy class of M_{11} . Such conjugacy classes arise from a generalized M_{12} moonshine in the sense of Norton that we will discuss in a later section.

3.4 Borcherds-Kac-Moody algebras

A very nice result is that the M_{12} modular forms $\Delta^{\hat{\rho}}(\mathbf{Z})$ discussed in the previous section (for $\hat{\rho} = 1A, 2B, 3A, 5A$) arise as the Weyl-Kac-Borcherds denominator formula for a family of rank-three Lorentzian Kac-Moody superalgebras [2,13,32]. All the BKM Lie superalgebras have identical simple real roots with Cartan matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & -2 & -2 \\ -2 & 2 & -2 \\ -2 & -2 & 2 \end{pmatrix} ,$$

but differ in their imaginary roots. In other words, we end up with the sequence summarized in figure 1 that takes us from conjugacy classes of M_{12} to Borcherds-

Kac-Moody Lie superalgebras. In particular we obtain

M_{12} conj. class	1A	2B	3A	5A
BKM Lie algebra	$\mathcal{G}_1(1)$	$\mathcal{G}_1(2)$	$\mathcal{G}_1(3)$	$\mathcal{G}_1(5)$

Table 2: Relating M_{12} conjugacy classes to Lie superalgebras(notation of [18])

4 Generalized M_{12} moonshine

In our approach, the conjugacy classes of M_{12} that don't reduce to conjugacy classes of M_{11} such as 4B naturally appear when one considers a generalized moonshine in the sense of Norton [33, see appendix by Norton]. Generalized moonshine is best described using notation that is standard in Conformal Field Theory(CFT). The character of a module, \mathcal{H} in CFT is given by

$$\prod_{1} \equiv \operatorname{Tr}_{\mathcal{H}}\left(q^{L_{0}-\frac{c}{24}}\right) , \qquad (4.1)$$

where the box notation will be explained soon. Now let g and h denote commuting symmetries of finite order of the CFT. Let \mathcal{H}_h denote the h-twisted module in the orbifold of the original CFT by the group generated by h. Then, we define

$${}^{1}\prod_{h} \equiv \operatorname{Tr}_{\mathcal{H}_{h}}\left(q^{L_{0}-\frac{c}{24}}\right), \qquad (4.2)$$

and similarly, one might consider a more general situation with the insertion of g in a trace over the h-twisted module.

$$g \bigsqcup_{h} \equiv \operatorname{Tr}_{\mathcal{H}_{h}} \left(g \ q^{L_{0} - \frac{c}{24}} \right) .$$

$$(4.3)$$

Using these ideas from CFT, we use the same pictures to represent suitable traces over twisted modules though we don't always specify the details of the module.

The three different moonshines that we have discussed involving eta-products, Jacobi forms and Siegel modular forms all arise from taking g to be an element of M_{12} and taking the trace over a suitable module graded by g and thus are of type $g \prod_{1}$. We shall discuss the generalized moonshine for each of these modular forms.

4.1 Eta-products

The module here is furnished by the oscillator Fock space of twelve chiral bosons – this was denoted earlier by \mathcal{F}^{\natural} . Then, as we have already seen, one has

$$g_{\hat{\rho}}(\tau) = \operatorname{Tr}_{\mathcal{F}^{\natural}}\left(g \ q^{L_0 - \frac{1}{2}}\right) \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad g \bigsqcup_{1},$$

$$(4.4)$$

where $\hat{\rho}$ is the conjugacy class of g. Let h denote an element of M_{12} (of order N) that acts by permuting the 12 chiral bosons. and \mathcal{F}_h denote the h-twisted Fock space. Then, it is natural to consider the generalized moonshine of type 1 _____h. For

all conjugacy classes with balanced cycle shapes, a calculation analogous to the one in [18, see appendix A] gives rise to the eta product with modified argument⁴

$$g_{\hat{\rho}}\left(\frac{\tau}{N}\right) = \operatorname{Tr}_{\mathcal{F}_h}\left(q^{L_0 - \frac{1}{2N}}\right) \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad 1 \bigsqcup_h, \qquad (4.5)$$

where $\hat{\rho} = [h]$. These turn out be square-roots of the eta-products that count $\frac{1}{2}$ -BPS states in the \mathbb{Z}_N CHL orbifold – the \mathbb{Z}_N being generated by an element of M_{12} : 2 of the form (h, e).

Next, one can consider the more general case of two different commuting elements of M_{12} and a generalized moonshine of type $g \bigsqcup_{h}$. Again, one obtains an eta-product (let g have order M and h has order N as before)

$$g_{\hat{\rho}}\left(\frac{\tau}{N}\right) = \operatorname{Tr}_{\mathcal{F}_h}\left(g \ q^{L_0 - \frac{1}{2N}}\right) \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad g \bigsqcup_h,$$
 (4.6)

Again, using the relationship that we have observed with g-twisted $\frac{1}{2}$ -BPS states in the CHL \mathbb{Z}_N -orbifold, we obtain three conjugacy classes corresponding to the values: (M, N) = (2, 2), (2, 4), (4, 2), (3, 3) – the first one gives rise to the conjugacy class 2A, the next two correspond to the conjugacy class 4A and the last one gives rise to the conjugacy class 4A.

$\hat{ ho}$	2^{6}	$2^{2}4^{2}$	3^{4}	
M_{12} class	2A	4A	3B	

4.2 The Siegel modular forms

Given a multiplicative eta-product associated with a generalized moonshine of arbitrary type, we can immediately construct a Siegel modular form by the additive lift. This enables us to provide candidate Siegel modular forms for a generalized moonshine of similar type.

The Siegel modular forms associated with moonshine of type 1 \square_h are obtained by writing the modular forms that count $\frac{1}{4}$ -BPS states in the CHL orbifold generated by the element (h, e) (of order N) as in Eq. (3.16). For the M_{12} conjugacy classes 1A, 2B, 3A, this implies that the Siegel modular form is the square-root of the modular form counting $\frac{1}{4}$ -BPS dyons. The modular forms that, in principle,

⁴The conjugacy classes 4B and 8B do not fit this and are not considered.

lead to the conjugacy classes 5A and 6B have not been constructed and hence our proposal remains conjectural in these cases.

A similar approach leads to generalized moonshine of type $g \bigsqcup_{h}$ with g (of order M) and h (of order N) commuting elements of M_{12} . Now, the modular forms that one obtains are square-roots of the Siegel modular forms that count g-twisted $\frac{1}{4}$ -BPS states in the CHL \mathbb{Z}_N orbifold. This leads to Siegel modular forms for the conjugacy classes 2A, 3B, 4A. The conjugacy class 4A has two possibilities corresponding to (N, M) = (2, 4) and (4, 2). All these modular forms are again instances of the dd-modular forms of Clery and Gritsenko [17].

As with the other modular forms, these dd modular forms also arise as the Weyl-Kac-Borcherds denominator formulae for BKM Lie superalgebras considered in [18]. We list them in Table 3.

M_{12} conj. class		3A	2A	3B	4A	4A'
Modular Form						
BKM Lie algebra	$\mathcal{G}_2(1)$	$\mathcal{G}_3(1)$	$\mathcal{G}_2(2)$	$\mathcal{G}_3(3)$	$\mathcal{G}_2(4)$	$\mathcal{G}_4(2)$

Table 3: Siegel modular forms and Lie superalgebras(notation of [18]) for generalized moonshine

4.3 Jacobi forms

There are two routes to obtaining Jacobi forms associated with generalized moonshine. The first method is look directly for generalization of the Jacobi forms of type $g \prod_{1}$ that we considered earlier. The second method is to consider the Jacobi forms that provide Borcherds/multiplicative lifts for the Siegel modular forms (of the previous subsection) associated with generalized moonshine. It turns out that these two methods do *not* necessarily lead to the same Jacobi forms.

We begin with the first method and look for a generalized moonshine for the Jacobi forms of type 1 \square . The simplest way to obtain these Jacobi forms is to consider their transformation under the $(\tau, z) \rightarrow (-1/\tau, z/\tau)$ of the Jacobi forms of type $h \square$. In these examples, the Jacobi forms that generate product formulae for the Siegel modular forms also lead to the same Jacobi form.

Let us first consider the conjugacy classes of M_{12} that reduce to M_{11} classes. In particular, consider the classes 1A, 2B, 3A and 5A. One expands the transformed Jacobi forms (of weight zero and index one) in terms of $\mathcal{N} = 4$ characters as in Eq. (3.10). However, one can see that the function $\hat{\Sigma}^{\hat{\rho}}(\tau)$ must have the following Fourier expansion

$$\widehat{\Sigma}^{\hat{\rho}} = \left(\beta + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A^{\hat{\rho}}(n) \ q^{n/N}\right) , \qquad (4.7)$$

where the fractional power of q reflects the width of the cusp and $A^{\hat{\rho}}(n)$ are *conjectured* to be integers. The coefficients A(n) are conjectured to be integers to all orders. We find

$$\widehat{\Sigma}^{2B}(\tau) = (8q^{1/2} + 24q + 56q^{3/2} + 112q^2 + \cdots)$$
$$\widehat{\Sigma}^{3A}(\tau) = (3q^{1/3} + 9q^{2/3} + 15q + 30q^{4/3} + 45q^{5/3} + \cdots)$$
$$\widehat{\Sigma}^{5A}(\tau) = (q^{1/5} + 3q^{2/5} + 4q^{3/5} + 7q^{4/5} + 9q + \cdots)$$

The next generalization is to consider generalized moonshine of type $g \bigsqcup_{h}^{h}$, where g and h are two commuting elements of M_{12} . From our multiplicative eta-products, we know that these lead to conjugacy classes 2A, 3A and 4A – these conjugacy classes do not reduce to conjugacy classes of M_{11} . The product formula for the corresponding Siegel modular forms have been discussed in [18] and the associated Jacobi forms are of weight zero and index *two*. Thus, they are somewhat different from the other examples that we have considered. We can decompose these weight two Jacobi forms in terms of $\mathcal{N} = 4$ superconformal characters. This will be discussed elsewhere [30].

In principle, we could consider the index one Jacobi forms associated with conjugacy classes of M_{24} that do *not* reduce to conjugacy classes of M_{23} . These were considered by Cheng as well as Gaberdiel et. al. [4–6]. However, they do not seem to be related to Siegel modular forms to the best of our knowledge. Hence, we do not pursue this any further.

5 Concluding Remarks

In this paper, we have conjectured a relationship between M_{12} conjugacy classes with balanced cycle shapes and Siegel modular forms as well as BKM Lie superalgebras. The simplest examples appear for conjugacy classes of M_{12} that reduce to conjugacy classes of M_{11} . We have proposed that other conjugacy classes correspond to a generalized moonshine. Evidence for these conjectured relationships have been provided for a large class of conjugacy classes – notably for those classes with cycles less than 6. In particular, we believe that the correspondence should hold for the M_{12} conjugacy classes 6B. We anticipate that there exists a Siegel modular form as well as BKM Lie superalgebra(s) associated with this conjugacy classes 6A, 8A, 10A and 11A/B – the additive lift, if it exists, implies that these are modular functions (i.e., of weight zero).

⁵We thank Fabien Clery for an extensive email discussion in this regard.

We also anticipate that there exists a M_{12} -module V^{\natural} that is graded by three integers (n, ℓ, m)

$$V^{\natural} = \bigoplus_{(n,\ell,m)} V_{(n,\ell,m)}$$

such that

$$\frac{1}{\Delta_5(\mathbf{Z})} = \sum_{(n,\ell,m)} \operatorname{Tr}_{V_{(n,\ell,m)}} \left(q^n r^\ell s^m \right)$$
(5.1)

Insertions of elements $g \in M_{12}$ in the trace should lead to $\Delta_5(\mathbf{Z})$ being replaced by dd modular forms associated with the conjugacy class of g. Similarly, by considering *h*-twisted versions of the module V^{\natural} , we should recover all the dd modular forms.

In a forthcoming paper [30], we show that the Siegel modular forms $\Phi_k(\mathbf{Z})$ and $\Delta_k(\mathbf{Z})$ imply an infinite number of moonshines for the Mathieu groups M_{24} and M_{12} respectively. We also show that these moonshines include the additive and multiplicative moonshines that were discussed in this paper and elsewhere in the context of M_{24} .

The original motivation for our study of the M_{12} moonshine was to understand the square-root that appeared in relating Siegel modular forms to BKM Lie superalgebras. However, our study has raised more questions than have been answered. We conclude with a few of these questions. Can we understand the appearance of the Fock space of 12 chiral bosons? Is there any relation to the worldvolume theory of a M5-brane wrapping a Enriques surface? Can we derive the dd modular forms in terms of a theory of multiple M5-branes?

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A Character Tables

A.1 Character Table for M_{12}

The character table for M_{12} (obtained from the GAP character table database [35])

where $\alpha = (\omega + \omega^3 + \omega^4 + \omega^5 + \omega^9)$ with $\omega = \exp(2\pi i/11)$.

A.2 Character Table for M_{12} :2

The character table for M_{12} :2 (obtained from the GAP database [35])

 $1 \ 1 \ 1$ 1 -1 - $^{-1}$ $^{-1}$ -1 $^{-1}$ -1 $^{-1}$ $^{-1}$ $^{-1}$ $0 \quad 0 \quad -2 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad 0$ 5 - 31 - 11 - 53 - 1 $^{-1}$ Α -A-A $^{-1}$ $^{-1}$ -5 $^{-1}$ $^{-1}$ $\mathbf{2}$ -1-1-6 -2-1 $^{-1}$ -30 - 11 - 1 - 1 $^{-1}$ $1 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad -1 \quad 0$ В -B0 0 0 -BВ 1 - 1-1 $^{-1}$ $1 \ -4 \ 0 \ -2 \ -1$ $\begin{array}{c} 0 \\ 0 \end{array}$ 0 $\tilde{\chi}_{21}$ -4

where A = $(\alpha - \alpha^2 - \alpha^3 + \alpha^4)$ and B = $(-\omega^7 + \omega^{11})$ with $\alpha = \exp(2\pi i/5)$ and $\omega = \exp(2\pi i/12)$.

A.3 Decomposing M_{24} characters

We decompose some of the M_{24} irreps that appear in the multiplicative moonshine in terms of characters of M_{12} : 2 and M_{12} . This was obtained using the program GAP [35, 36]:

$$\chi_{23} = \tilde{\chi}_2 + \tilde{\chi}_3 = \hat{\chi}_1 + \hat{\chi}_2 + \hat{\chi}_3 ,$$

$$\chi_{45} = \tilde{\chi}_5 = \hat{\chi}_6 ,$$

$$\chi_{231} = \tilde{\chi}_9 + \tilde{\chi}_{20} = \hat{\chi}_8 + \hat{\chi}_{15} ,$$

$$\chi_{770} = \tilde{\chi}_{12} + \tilde{\chi}_{16} + \tilde{\chi}_{17} + \tilde{\chi}_{18} + \tilde{\chi}_{19} + \tilde{\chi}_{20}$$

$$= \hat{\chi}_{11} + 2 \ \hat{\chi}_{13} + 2 \ \hat{\chi}_{14} + \hat{\chi}_{15} ,$$

where the M_{12} : 2 and M_{12} characters are labeled as in the character table given, respectively, in Appendix A.2 and A.1.

A.4 Multiplicative eta products and M₁₂ conjugacy classes

Let $\hat{\rho} = 1^{a_1} 2^{a_2} \cdots N^{a_N}$ be a cycle shape for a partition of 12. Thus, we have $\sum_i ia_i = 12$. Using the map Eq. (3.1), we obtain an eta-product, $g^{\hat{\rho}}(\tau)$. Let $g_{\hat{\rho}}(\tau)$ have the following Fourier expansion

$$g_{\hat{\rho}}(\tau) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \ q^{n/2} \ .$$
 (A.2)

Extending a definition of Dummit et. al., we call the eta-product multiplicative if $a_{nm} = a_n a_m$ when gcd(n, m) = 1. Replacing, q by q^2 in the above equation, we see that this reduces precisely to eta-products considered by Dummit et. al. [23]. They found 30 multiplicative eta-products – among these eta-products, we need to look at cycles shapes with only *even* cycles so that it can be reduced to a cycle shape with $\sum_i ia_i = 12$. We find 15 of the 30 cycle shapes in their list satisfy our criterion. Further, 12 of the 15 cycle shapes also arise as M_{12} conjugacy classes. The cycles shapes 4^3 , 3 9 and 12 gives rise to multiplicative eta-products but are *not* M_{12} conjugacy classes. The M_{12} classes 4B and 8B do not give rise to multiplicative eta-products. We list them in the Table 4.

1^{12}	2^{6}	$1^{4}2^{4}$	$1^{3}3^{3}$	3^4	$2^{2}4^{2}$	$1^{2}5^{2}$	6^{2}	$1\ 2\ 3\ 6$	48	2 10	1 11
1A	2A	$2\mathrm{B}$	3A	3B	4A	5A	6A	6B	8A	10A	11A/B

Table 4: Balanced cycles shapes associated with multiplicative eta-products and their M_{12} conjugacy class.

B The modular forms

The genus-one theta functions are defined by

$$\theta \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \end{bmatrix} (z_1, z_2) = \sum_{l \in \mathbb{Z}} q^{\frac{1}{2}(l + \frac{a}{2})^2} r^{(l + \frac{a}{2})} e^{i\pi l b} , \qquad (B.1)$$

where $a.b \in (0,1) \mod 2$ and $q = \exp(2\pi i z_1)$ and $r = \exp(2\pi i z_2)$. One has $\vartheta_1(z_1, z_2) \equiv \theta \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} (z_1, z_2), \ \vartheta_2(z_1, z_2) \equiv \theta \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} (z_1, z_2), \ \vartheta_3(z_1, z_2) \equiv \theta \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} (z_1, z_2)$ and $\vartheta_4(z_1, z_2) \equiv \theta \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} (z_1, z_2)$.

We define the genus-two theta constants as follows [15]:

$$\theta \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{a} \\ \mathbf{b} \end{bmatrix} (\mathbf{Z}) = \sum_{(l_1, l_2) \in \mathbb{Z}^2} q^{\frac{1}{2}(l_1 + \frac{a_1}{2})^2} r^{(l_1 + \frac{a_1}{2})(l_2 + \frac{a_2}{2})} s^{\frac{1}{2}(l_2 + \frac{a_2}{2})^2} e^{i\pi(l_1 b_1 + l_2 b_2)} , \qquad (B.2)$$

where $\mathbf{a} = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \end{pmatrix}$, $\mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \end{pmatrix}$, and $\mathbf{Z} = \begin{pmatrix} z_1 & z_2 \\ z_2 & z_3 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{H}_2$. Further, we have defined $q = \exp(2\pi i z_1)$, $r = \exp(2\pi i z_2)$ and $s = \exp(2\pi i z_3)$. The constants (a_1, a_2, b_1, b_2) take values (0, 1). Thus there are sixteen genus-two theta constants. The even theta constants are those for which $\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{b} = 0 \mod 2$. There are ten such theta constants. Note that six of the even theta constants with $\mathbf{a} \neq 0$ have even Fourier coefficients while the remaining four theta constants with $\mathbf{a} = 0$ have integral Fourier coefficients.

$$\Phi_3^{4B}(\mathbf{Z}) = \left(\frac{1}{8} \; \theta \begin{bmatrix} 1\\0\\1\\1 \end{bmatrix} (2\mathbf{Z}) \; \theta \begin{bmatrix} 1\\1\\1\\0 \end{bmatrix} (2\mathbf{Z}) \; \theta \begin{bmatrix} 1\\1\\1\\1 \end{bmatrix} (2\mathbf{Z}) \; \right)^2 \equiv \left[\Delta_{3/2}(\mathbf{Z})\right]^2 \; . \tag{B.3}$$

$$\Delta_1^{4B}(\mathbf{Z}) = \frac{1}{4} \; \theta \begin{bmatrix} 0\\1\\1\\0 \end{bmatrix} (2\mathbf{Z}) \; \theta \begin{bmatrix} 1\\1\\1\\1 \end{bmatrix} (2\mathbf{Z}) \; . \tag{B.4}$$

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