

RANK TWO FALSE THETA FUNCTIONS AND JACOBI FORMS OF NEGATIVE DEFINITE MATRIX INDEX

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ABSTRACT. In this paper, we study a family of rank two false theta series associated to the root lattice of type A_2 . We show that these functions appear as Fourier coefficients of a meromorphic Jacobi form of negative definite matrix index. Hypergeometric q -series identities are also obtained.

1. INTRODUCTION AND STATEMENT OF RESULTS

(Holomorphic) Jacobi forms are complex functions on $\mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{H}$ that transform nicely under the Jacobi group. They generalize modular forms, have an associated weight and index (which is a positive half-integer), and include the classical Jacobi theta function. Jacobi forms are related to modular forms in various ways. One of these connections is through the so-called theta decomposition, which in particular implies that Fourier coefficients (in the z -variable) of holomorphic Jacobi forms are modular forms [16]. The situation is more difficult in the case that the Jacobi form has poles in the elliptic z -variable. In this case more complicated modular type objects occur [8, 15, 21, 25]. If the Jacobi forms have poles in z , then the index of the Jacobi form may also be negative and in this case false theta functions occur [7, 12]. False theta functions are similar to theta functions but some of the signs are different, which prevents them from being modular forms. The notion of Jacobi form can be easily generalized to several complex variables. Prominent examples of multi-variable Jacobi forms come from characters of integrable highest weight modules for affine Lie algebras [19]. More recently, the study of mock theta functions [25], quantum black holes [15], and Kac–Wakimoto characters of affine Lie superalgebras [20] put more emphasis on meromorphic Jacobi forms and their Fourier coefficients.

In [9, 11], the first three authors studied a family of rank two theta-like series (throughout $p \in \mathbb{N}_{\geq 2}$):

$$F(\zeta_1, \zeta_2; q) := \sum_{n_1, n_2 \in \mathbb{Z}} \frac{q^{p\left(\left(n_1 - \frac{1}{p}\right)^2 + \left(n_2 - \frac{1}{p}\right)^2 - \left(n_1 - \frac{1}{p}\right)\left(n_2 - \frac{1}{p}\right)\right)}}{(1 - \zeta_1^{-1})(1 - \zeta_2^{-1})(1 - \zeta_1^{-1}\zeta_2^{-1})} \left(\zeta_1^{n_1-1} \zeta_2^{n_2-1} - \zeta_1^{-n_1+n_2-1} \zeta_2^{n_2-1} \right. \\ \left. - \zeta_1^{n_1-1} \zeta_2^{-n_2+n_1-1} + \zeta_1^{-n_2-1} \zeta_2^{-n_2+n_1-1} + \zeta_1^{-n_1+n_2-1} \zeta_2^{-n_1-1} - \zeta_1^{-n_2-1} \zeta_2^{-n_1-1} \right).$$

It is not difficult to see that the rational function in ζ_1 and ζ_2 showing up as the summand in $F(\zeta_1, \zeta_2; q)$ is actually a Laurent polynomial. As demonstrated in [11, Section 4.3], the

The research of the first author is supported by the Alfred Krupp Prize for Young University Teachers of the Krupp foundation. The third author was partially supported by the NSF grant DMS-1601070.

constant term of $F(\zeta_1, \zeta_2; q)$, taken with respect to ζ_1 and ζ_2 , is given by

$$F(q) := \sum_{\substack{n_1, n_2 \geq 1 \\ n_1 \equiv n_2 \pmod{3}}} \min(n_1, n_2) q^{\frac{p}{3}(n_1^2 + n_2^2 + n_1 n_2) - n_1 - n_2 + \frac{1}{p}} (1 - q^{n_1})(1 - q^{n_2})(1 - q^{n_1 + n_2}).$$

In [9], the last expression was called the \mathfrak{sl}_3 *false theta* function. The q -series F has several interesting properties, and in particular, it can be used to construct a non-trivial example of a so-called depth two quantum modular form introduced in [9, Theorem 1.1]. The above construction can be viewed as a two variable version of a more familiar example involving one complex variable ζ [11, Section 4.2]. Indeed, taking the Fourier coefficients of

$$\sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} q^{p(n + \frac{p-1}{2p})^2} \frac{\zeta^{2n+1} - \zeta^{-2n-1}}{\zeta - \zeta^{-1}}, \quad (1.1)$$

results in classical false theta functions studied by numerous authors. For instance, for $p = 2$, the constant coefficient of (1.1) is essentially the classical Roger's false theta function

$$\sum_{n \geq 0} (-1)^n q^{\frac{n(n+1)}{2}}.$$

Interestingly, all Fourier coefficients of (1.1) are basically so-called quantum modular forms with quantum set \mathbb{Q} (see [11, Theorem 4.1] for details).

Both (1.1) and $F(\zeta_1, \zeta_2; q)$ are directly related to characters of representations of certain W -algebras. As demonstrated by Feigin and Tipunin [17], such vertex algebras can be associated to any simply-laced root lattice of ADE type. We omit discussing the precise connection here because it is out of the scope of this paper (see [5, 11, 13, 14, 17] for more details).

In a somewhat different direction, Kac and Wakimoto [20, Example 2] recently obtained product formulas for irreducible characters of representations of affine Lie algebras at the boundary admissible levels. For the Lie algebra $\widehat{\mathfrak{sl}}_N$ at level $-\frac{N}{2}$, where N is odd, their formula takes an elegant shape, namely

$$\text{ch} \left[L \left(-\frac{N}{2} \Lambda_0 \right) \right] (z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{N-1}; \tau) = \left(\frac{\eta(\tau)}{\eta(2\tau)} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}(N-1)(N-2)} \prod_{1 \leq j \leq k \leq N-1} \frac{\vartheta \left(\sum_{r=j}^k z_r; 2\tau \right)}{\vartheta \left(\sum_{r=j}^k z_r; \tau \right)}, \quad (1.2)$$

where throughout $q := e^{2\pi i \tau}$, $\eta(\tau) := q^{\frac{1}{24}} \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - q^n)$ is *Dedekind's η -function*, $\vartheta(z; \tau) := \sum_{n \in \frac{1}{2} + \mathbb{Z}} q^{\frac{n^2}{2}} e^{2\pi i n(z + \frac{1}{2})}$ is the *Jacobi theta function*, and $L(-\frac{N}{2} \Lambda_0)$ denotes the simple affine vertex operator algebra of level $-\frac{N}{2}$. Due to the presence of theta functions, the modular properties of these characters can easily be determined. A much more interesting and harder problem is to investigate modular properties of characters of the corresponding parafermionic vertex algebra $K(\mathfrak{sl}_N, -\frac{N}{2})$ and its representations. Characters of such modules are obtained by taking the Fourier expansion of $\text{ch}[L(-\frac{N}{2} \Lambda_0)]$ with respect to the variables z_j in a particular range. Since the Jacobi form appearing on the right-hand side of (1.2) is meromorphic of negative definite (matrix) index it is not clear what modular transformation properties these coefficients should possess. This is in contrast to the situation of the characters of representations of integrable highest weight modules, which are holomorphic and whose Fourier coefficients are modular forms [19, Section 4.4].

The aim of this paper is to connect the Fourier coefficients of $F(\zeta_1, \zeta_2; q)$ for $p = 2$ to the Fourier coefficients in Kac–Wakimoto’s character formula for $N = 3$. Strong hints that they are related come from the work on logarithmic W -algebras [17] combined with work of Adamovic [4], specifically his important realization of $K(\mathfrak{sl}_3, -\frac{3}{2})$ [4, Theorem 11.1]. As for $N > 3$, we do not know whether Fourier coefficients of (1.2) can be expressed using higher rank false theta functions introduced in [11, formula (1.2)].

We obtain the following result (see Theorem 3.1 for a more explicit version) in the case that $p = 2$.

Theorem 1.1. *For $p = 2$, all Fourier coefficients of $F(\zeta_1, \zeta_2; q)$ appear as coefficients of a (single) meromorphic Jacobi form of matrix index $-\frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$ and weight two with respect to some congruence subgroup.*

Motivated by several known q -hypergeometric expressions for partial and false theta functions [3, 22, 23] (some going back to Ramanujan [6, entry 9]), using results from the proof of Theorem 1.1, we give q -hypergeometric formulas for a class of false theta functions parametrized by pairs of integers (r_1, r_2) . In the special case corresponding to $(r_1, r_2) = (0, 0)$, we obtain an elegant identity; more general identities are given in Proposition 5.2.

Theorem 1.2. *We have*

$$\begin{aligned} & (q; q)_\infty^{-2} (q^2; q^2)_\infty^{-2} \sum_{\substack{n_1 \geq 0 \\ n_2 \in \mathbb{Z}}} \operatorname{sgn}^*(n_2) (-1)^{n_1} q^{\frac{n_1(n_1+1)}{2} + n_1 n_2 + 2n_2^2 + 2n_2} \\ &= \sum_{\substack{n_1, n_2, n_3 \in \mathbb{N}_0 \\ n_4 \in \mathbb{Z}}} \frac{q^{2n_1 + 2n_2 + 2n_3 + 3|n_4|}}{(q^2; q^2)_{n_1} (q^2; q^2)_{n_1 + |n_4|} (q^2; q^2)_{n_2} (q^2; q^2)_{n_2 + |n_4|} (q^2; q^2)_{n_3} (q^2; q^2)_{n_3 + |n_4|}}, \end{aligned}$$

where $(a; q)_n := \prod_{j=0}^{n-1} (1 - aq^j)$ for $n \in \mathbb{N}_0 \cup \{\infty\}$ and where $\operatorname{sgn}^*(n) := 1$ if $n \geq 0$ and -1 otherwise.

The paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, we discuss the classical Jacobi theta function and certain Jacobi forms in two variables. In Section 3, we prove Theorem 1.1 in several steps: In Subsection 3.1 we introduce a family of false theta functions in two summation variables, denoted by $\mathbb{G}_{(\lambda_1, \lambda_2)}$. These q -series are essentially generalizations of the rank two false theta function $F(q)$. In Proposition 3.2 we give an explicit formula for the Fourier coefficients of $F(\zeta_1, \zeta_2; q)$ in terms of $\mathbb{G}_{(\lambda_1, \lambda_2)}$. We next compute the Fourier coefficients of the relevant Jacobi form in Subsection 3.2. Finally we combine these results to prove the first main result of the paper in Subsection 3.3. In Section 4, we determine the Fourier coefficients of two additional characters from [20] using results from Subsection 3.2. In Section 5, we employ results from Section 4 to give q -hypergeometric formulas for a class of functions $\mathbb{G}_{(\lambda_1, \lambda_2)}$. Section 6 is concerned with the q -series $\lim_{(\zeta_1, \zeta_2) \rightarrow (1, 1)} F(\zeta_1, \zeta_2; q)$, for $p = 2$. This limit is important from the point of view of representation theory [11, Section 4.3]. We show that it can be computed as the constant term of a particular index zero Jacobi form (see Theorem 6.3).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The authors thank Chris Jennings-Shaffer for helpful comments on an earlier version of this paper. We also thank the referee for their comments.

2. JACOBI THETA FUNCTIONS

We first recall some properties of the Jacobi theta function. By the Jacobi triple product identity, we have

$$\vartheta(z; \tau) = -iq^{\frac{1}{8}}\zeta^{-\frac{1}{2}}(\zeta, \zeta^{-1}q, q; q)_{\infty},$$

where $(a_1, \dots, a_{\ell}; q)_n := (a_1; q)_n \dots (a_{\ell}; q)_n$ and $\zeta := e^{2\pi iz}$ throughout. Then, with χ the multiplier of η , we have for $m, \ell \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $\gamma = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$,

$$\vartheta(z + m\tau + \ell; \tau) = (-1)^{m+\ell} q^{-\frac{m^2}{2}} \zeta^{-m} \vartheta(z; \tau), \quad (2.1)$$

$$\vartheta\left(\frac{z}{c\tau + d}; \frac{a\tau + b}{c\tau + d}\right) = \chi(\gamma)^3 (c\tau + d)^{\frac{1}{2}} e^{\frac{\pi icz^2}{c\tau + d}} \vartheta(z; \tau). \quad (2.2)$$

In this paper, we deal with functions satisfying a higher-dimensional generalization of these transformations which we now recall. Here and throughout bold letters denote vectors such as $\mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{C}^N$, $N \in \mathbb{N}$.

Definition. Let $L_1, L_2 \subset \mathbb{Z}^N$ be lattices, $\nu_1 : \Gamma \rightarrow S^1 := \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| = 1\}$ a multiplier, and $\nu_2 : L_1 \times L_2 : \Gamma \rightarrow S^1$ a homomorphism with finite image, and $N \in \mathbb{N}$. We call a meromorphic function $g : \mathbb{C}^N \times \mathbb{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ a *Jacobi form of matrix index* $M \in \frac{1}{4}\mathbb{Z}^{N \times N}$ (with $M^T = M$ and $M_{j,j} \in \frac{1}{2}\mathbb{Z}$ for $j \in \{1, \dots, N\}$) and weight $k \in \frac{1}{2}\mathbb{Z}$ for $\Gamma \subset \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$ with respect to $L_1 \times L_2$ and ν_1, ν_2 if it satisfies the following transformation laws (for all $(\mathbf{z}, \tau) \in \mathbb{C}^N \times \mathbb{H}$):

(1) For $\mathbf{m} \in L_1$, $\boldsymbol{\ell} \in L_2$ we have

$$g(\mathbf{z} + \mathbf{m}\tau + \boldsymbol{\ell}; \tau) = \nu_2(\mathbf{m}, \boldsymbol{\ell}) q^{-\mathbf{m}^T M \mathbf{m}} e^{-4\pi i \mathbf{m}^T M \mathbf{z}} g(\mathbf{z}; \tau).$$

(2) For $\gamma = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in \Gamma$ we have

$$g\left(\frac{\mathbf{z}}{c\tau + d}; \frac{a\tau + b}{c\tau + d}\right) = \nu_1(\gamma) (c\tau + d)^k e^{\frac{2\pi ic}{c\tau + d} \mathbf{z}^T M \mathbf{z}} g(\mathbf{z}; \tau).$$

(3) For some $a > 0$, we have

$$g(\mathbf{z}; \tau) e^{-\frac{4\pi}{\mathrm{Im}(\tau)} \mathrm{Im}(\mathbf{z})^T M \mathrm{Im}(\mathbf{z})} \in O(e^{a \mathrm{Im}(\tau)}) \quad \text{as } \mathrm{Im}(\tau) \rightarrow \infty.$$

We say that g is of positive (resp. negative) matrix index if M is a positive (resp. negative) definite matrix.

In this paper, we are concerned with the Jacobi form

$$f(\mathbf{z}; \tau) := \frac{\vartheta(z_1; 2\tau)\vartheta(z_2; 2\tau)\vartheta(z_1 + z_2; 2\tau)}{\vartheta(z_1; \tau)\vartheta(z_2; \tau)\vartheta(z_1 + z_2; \tau)} \quad (2.3)$$

and a slightly dilated A_2 theta function

$$\mathcal{T}(\mathbf{z}; \tau) := \Theta_{A_2}(z_1 + 2z_2, z_1 - z_2; 2\tau), \quad \text{where } \Theta_{A_2}(\mathbf{z}; \tau) := \sum_{\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{Z}^2} q^{Q(\mathbf{n})} e^{2\pi i(n_1 z_1 + n_2 z_2)}$$

with the quadratic form $Q(\mathbf{n}) := n_1^2 + n_2^2 - n_1 n_2$. We prove the following transformation.

Proposition 2.1. *The function f is Jacobi form of weight zero and matrix index $-\frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$. More precisely, for $\gamma = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in \Gamma_0(2)$, $\mathbf{m} \in 2\mathbb{Z}^2$, and $\boldsymbol{\ell} \in \mathbb{Z}^2$, we have*

$$f\left(\frac{\mathbf{z}}{c\tau+d}; \frac{a\tau+b}{c\tau+d}\right) = \nu(\gamma) e^{-\frac{\pi ic}{c\tau+d} Q^*(\mathbf{z})} f(\mathbf{z}; \tau),$$

$$f(\mathbf{z} + \mathbf{m}\tau + \boldsymbol{\ell}; \tau) = q^{\frac{1}{2}Q^*(\mathbf{m})} \zeta_1^{m_1 + \frac{m_2}{2}} \zeta_2^{m_2 + \frac{m_1}{2}} f(\mathbf{z}; \tau),$$

where $\nu(\gamma) := \chi\left(\frac{a}{c} \frac{2b}{d}\right)^9 \chi(\gamma)^{-9}$, $Q^*(\mathbf{z}) := z_1^2 + z_2^2 + z_1 z_2$, and $\zeta_j := e^{2\pi i z_j}$.

The theta function \mathcal{T} is a weight one Jacobi form of matrix index $\frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$. To be more precise, we have for $\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in \Gamma_0(6)$, $\mathbf{m} \in \mathbb{Z}^2$, and $\boldsymbol{\ell} \in \mathbb{Z}^2$,

$$\mathcal{T}\left(\frac{\mathbf{z}}{c\tau+d}; \frac{a\tau+b}{c\tau+d}\right) = \left(\frac{-3}{d}\right) (c\tau+d) e^{\frac{\pi ic}{c\tau+d} Q^*(\mathbf{z})} \mathcal{T}(\mathbf{z}; \tau), \quad (2.4)$$

$$\mathcal{T}(\mathbf{z} + \mathbf{m}\tau + \boldsymbol{\ell}; \tau) = q^{-\frac{1}{2}Q^*(\mathbf{m})} \zeta_1^{-m_1 - \frac{m_2}{2}} \zeta_2^{-\frac{m_1}{2} - m_2} \mathcal{T}(\mathbf{z}; \tau), \quad (2.5)$$

where $\left(\frac{\cdot}{\cdot}\right)$ denotes the Jacobi symbol.

Proof: Using (2.1) and (2.2), we obtain the claims for f .

To prove (2.4), we use Proposition 3.8 of [19], which gives for $A = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in \Gamma_0(3)$, that

$$\Theta_{A_2}\left(\frac{\mathbf{z}}{c\tau+d}; \frac{a\tau+b}{c\tau+d}\right) = \left(\frac{-3}{d}\right) (c\tau+d) e^{\frac{2\pi ic}{3(c\tau+d)} Q^*(\mathbf{z})} \Theta_{A_2}(\mathbf{z}; \tau).$$

The elliptic transformation (2.5) follows from

$$\Theta_{A_2}(\mathbf{z} + \mathbf{m}\tau + \boldsymbol{\ell}; \tau) = q^{-\frac{1}{3}Q^*(\mathbf{m})} \zeta_1^{-\frac{1}{2}(m_2+2m_1)} \zeta_2^{-\frac{1}{2}(m_1+2m_2)} \Theta_{A_2}(\mathbf{z}; \tau),$$

which can be confirmed by a direct calculation. □

3. PROOF OF THEOREM 1.1

In this section, we prove an explicit version of the main result of this paper, Theorem 1.1, using the Jacobi form f defined in (2.3) in the case $p = 2$.

Theorem 3.1. *For $p = 2$ and $\mathbf{r} \in \mathbb{Z}^2$ we have*

$$\text{coeff}_{[\zeta_1^{r_1}, \zeta_2^{r_2}]} F(\zeta_1, \zeta_2; q) = q^{2Q(\mathbf{r})} \frac{\eta(\tau)^5}{\eta(2\tau)} \text{coeff}_{[\zeta_1^{2r_1-r_2}, \zeta_2^{r_1+r_2}]} f(\mathbf{z}; \tau),$$

where $\text{coeff}_{[\zeta_1^{r_1}, \zeta_2^{r_2}]}$ denotes the r_1 -th Fourier coefficient in z_1 and the r_2 -th Fourier coefficient in z_2 in the range $|q| < |\zeta_j| < 1$, $|q| < |\zeta_1 \zeta_2| < 1$, $j \in \{1, 2\}$.

The proof consists of several steps. We first determine an explicit expression for the coefficients of F and then compare them with the coefficients of f .

3.1. **Coefficients of $F(\zeta_1, \zeta_2; q)$.** In this section we compute the Fourier coefficients of $F(\zeta_1, \zeta_2; q)$ for general p . For this we require, for $\lambda \in \mathbb{Q}^2$,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{G}_\lambda(\tau) &:= \sum_{\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{N}^2} \min(n_1, n_2) q^{pQ(\mathbf{n} + \lambda - (\frac{1}{p}, \frac{1}{p}))} \\ &\quad \times \left(1 - q^{2(n_1 + \lambda_1) - (n_2 + \lambda_2)} - q^{2(n_2 + \lambda_2) - (n_1 + \lambda_1)} + q^{3(n_1 + \lambda_1)} + q^{3(n_2 + \lambda_2)} - q^{2(n_1 + \lambda_1) + 2(n_2 + \lambda_2)} \right). \end{aligned}$$

The following result resembles [11, Proposition 5.1].

Proposition 3.2. *For all $\mathbf{r} \in \mathbb{Z}^2$, we have*

$$\text{coeff}_{[\zeta_1^{r_1}, \zeta_2^{r_2}]} F(\zeta_1, \zeta_2; q) = \mathbb{G}_\mathbf{r}(\tau).$$

Proof: Denoting the summands (without the minus-factors) appearing in the definition of $F(\zeta_1, \zeta_2; q)$ by $F_j(\zeta_1, \zeta_2; q)$ (with $j \in \{1, \dots, 6\}$) and the summands of $\mathbb{G}_\mathbf{r}(\tau)$ by $\mathbb{G}_{\mathbf{r},j}(\tau)$ (with $j \in \{1, \dots, 6\}$). We claim that

$$\text{coeff}_{[\zeta_1^{r_1}, \zeta_2^{r_2}]} F_j(\zeta_1, \zeta_2; q) = \mathbb{G}_{\mathbf{r},j}(\tau). \quad (3.1)$$

We prove (3.1) only for $j \in \{1, 2\}$, the other cases are shown analogously. In fact, we only show (3.1) for $|\zeta_k| > 1$ ($k \in \{1, 2\}$). Since the rational function in ζ_1 and ζ_2 showing up as the summand in $F(\zeta_1, \zeta_2; q)$ is actually a Laurent polynomial, the statement of Proposition 3.2 then holds for all ζ_k . For this we expand the Weyl denominator in $F(\zeta_1, \zeta_2; q)$ in non-positive powers of ζ_1 and ζ_2 ,

$$\frac{1}{(1 - \zeta_1^{-1})(1 - \zeta_2^{-1})(1 - \zeta_1^{-1}\zeta_2^{-1})} = \sum_{\ell \in \mathbb{N}_0^2} \min(\ell_1 + 1, \ell_2 + 1) \zeta_1^{-\ell_1} \zeta_2^{-\ell_2}. \quad (3.2)$$

We start with $j = 1$. We have, using (3.2),

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{coeff}_{[\zeta_1^{r_1}, \zeta_2^{r_2}]} F_1(\zeta_1, \zeta_2; q) \\ &= \text{coeff}_{[\zeta_1^{r_1}, \zeta_2^{r_2}]} \sum_{\ell \in \mathbb{N}_0^2} \min(\ell_1 + 1, \ell_2 + 1) \sum_{\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{Z}^2} q^{pQ(\mathbf{n} - (\frac{1}{p}, \frac{1}{p}))} \zeta_1^{n_1 - \ell_1 - 1} \zeta_2^{n_2 - \ell_2 - 1} \\ &= \sum_{\ell \in \mathbb{N}_0^2} \min(\ell_1 + 1, \ell_2 + 1) q^{pQ(\ell + \mathbf{r} + (1 - \frac{1}{p}, 1 - \frac{1}{p}))} = \sum_{\ell \in \mathbb{N}^2} \min(\ell_1, \ell_2) q^{pQ(\ell + \mathbf{r} - (\frac{1}{p}, \frac{1}{p}))} = \mathbb{G}_{\mathbf{r},1}(\tau), \end{aligned}$$

shifting $\ell \mapsto \ell - (1, 1)$ for the second to last equality.

For $j = 2$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{coeff}_{[\zeta_1^{r_1}, \zeta_2^{r_2}]} F_2(\zeta_1, \zeta_2; q) = \text{coeff}_{[\zeta_1^{r_1}, \zeta_2^{r_2}]} \sum_{\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{Z}^2} \frac{q^{pQ(\mathbf{n} - (\frac{1}{p}, \frac{1}{p}))}}{(1 - \zeta_1^{-1})(1 - \zeta_2^{-1})(1 - \zeta_1^{-1}\zeta_2^{-1})} \zeta_1^{-n_1 + n_2 - 1} \zeta_2^{n_2 - 1} \\ &= \text{coeff}_{[\zeta_1^{r_1}, \zeta_2^{r_2}]} \sum_{\ell \in \mathbb{N}_0^2} \min(\ell_1 + 1, \ell_2 + 1) \sum_{\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{Z}^2} q^{pQ(\mathbf{n} - (\frac{1}{p}, \frac{1}{p}))} \zeta_1^{-n_1 + n_2 - r_1 - 1} \zeta_2^{n_2 - r_2 - 1} \\ &= \text{coeff}_{[\zeta_1^{r_1}, \zeta_2^{r_2}]} \sum_{\ell \in \mathbb{N}_0^2} \min(\ell_1 + 1, \ell_2 + 1) \sum_{\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{Z}^2} q^{pQ(n_2 - n_1 - \frac{1}{p}, n_2 - \frac{1}{p})} \zeta_1^{n_1 - \ell_1 - 1} \zeta_2^{n_2 - \ell_2 - 1} \\ &= \sum_{\ell \in \mathbb{N}_0^2} \min(\ell_1 + 1, \ell_2 + 1) q^{pQ(\ell_2 - \ell_1 + r_2 - r_1 - \frac{1}{p}, \ell_2 + r_2 + 1 - \frac{1}{p})} = \mathbb{G}_{\mathbf{r},2}(\tau), \end{aligned}$$

where we change $n_1 \mapsto -n_1 + n_2$ for the third equality and

$$\begin{aligned} pQ \left(\ell_2 - \ell_1 + r_2 - r_1 - \frac{1}{p}, \ell_2 + r_2 + 1 - \frac{1}{p} \right) \\ = 2(\ell_1 + 1 + r_1) - (\ell_2 + 1 + r_2) + pQ \left(\boldsymbol{\ell} + \mathbf{r} + \left(1 - \frac{1}{p}, 1 - \frac{1}{p} \right) \right) \end{aligned}$$

for the final equality. \square

Remark 1. The first sum appearing in the definition of \mathbb{G}_λ , namely

$$\sum_{\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{N}_0^2} \min(n_1, n_2) q^{pQ(\mathbf{n} + \boldsymbol{\lambda} - (\frac{1}{p}, \frac{1}{p}))},$$

is an example of Kostant's partial theta function of type A_2 (see [14, Section 3]).

3.2. Partial theta functions as Fourier coefficients of Jacobi forms. From now on until the end of this section, we assume that $p = 2$ and write \mathbb{G}_λ as Fourier coefficients of the Jacobi form f .

Proposition 3.3. *For $p = 2$ and for all $\mathbf{r} \in \mathbb{Z}^2$ and $|q| < |\zeta_j| < |q|^{-1}$, $|q| < |\zeta_1 \zeta_2| < |q|^{-1}$, $j \in \{1, 2\}$, we have*

$$q^{-\frac{2}{3}Q(\mathbf{r})} \mathbb{G}_{\frac{1}{3}(r_1+r_2, 2r_2-r_1)}(\tau) = \frac{\eta(\tau)^5}{\eta(2\tau)} \text{coeff}_{[\zeta_1^{r_1}, \zeta_2^{r_2}]} f(\mathbf{z}; \tau).$$

To prove Proposition 3.3, we first rewrite \mathbb{G}_λ .

Lemma 3.4. *We have, for $p = 2$ and $\boldsymbol{\lambda} \in \mathbb{Q}^2$,*

$$\mathbb{G}_\lambda(\tau) = \sum_{\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{N}_0^2} q^{2Q(\mathbf{n} + \boldsymbol{\lambda} + (\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}))} - \sum_{n_2 > n_1 \geq 0} q^{2Q(\mathbf{n} + \boldsymbol{\lambda} + (\frac{1}{2}, 0))} - \sum_{n_1 > n_2 \geq 0} q^{2Q(\mathbf{n} + \boldsymbol{\lambda} + (0, \frac{1}{2}))}.$$

Proof: It is not hard to see that

$$\mathbb{G}_\lambda(\tau) = \sum_{\boldsymbol{\alpha} \in \mathcal{T}} \kappa(\boldsymbol{\alpha}) \sum_{\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{N}^2} \min(n_1, n_2) q^{2Q(\mathbf{n} + \boldsymbol{\lambda} + \boldsymbol{\alpha})}, \quad (3.3)$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{T} &:= \left\{ \left(-\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2}\right), \left(0, -\frac{1}{2}\right), \left(-\frac{1}{2}, 0\right), \left(\frac{1}{2}, 0\right), \left(0, \frac{1}{2}\right), \left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right) \right\} \\ \kappa(\boldsymbol{\alpha}) &:= \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \boldsymbol{\alpha} \in \left\{ \left(-\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2}\right), \left(\frac{1}{2}, 0\right), \left(0, \frac{1}{2}\right) \right\}, \\ -1 & \text{if } \boldsymbol{\alpha} \in \left\{ \left(0, -\frac{1}{2}\right), \left(-\frac{1}{2}, 0\right), \left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right) \right\}. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

We combine terms in (3.3) suitably and shift $\mathbf{n} \mapsto \mathbf{n} + (1, 1)$ in the $\boldsymbol{\alpha} = (-\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2})$ term to obtain

$$\sum_{\boldsymbol{\alpha} \in \left\{ \left(-\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2}\right), \left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right) \right\}} \kappa(\boldsymbol{\alpha}) \sum_{\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{N}^2} \min(n_1, n_2) q^{2Q(\mathbf{n} + \boldsymbol{\lambda} + \boldsymbol{\alpha})} = \sum_{\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{N}_0^2} q^{2Q(\mathbf{n} + \boldsymbol{\lambda} + (\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}))}.$$

Similarly, we have

$$\sum_{\boldsymbol{\alpha} \in \left\{ \left(-\frac{1}{2}, 0\right), \left(\frac{1}{2}, 0\right) \right\}} \kappa(\boldsymbol{\alpha}) \sum_{\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{N}^2} \min(n_1, n_2) q^{2Q(\mathbf{n} + \boldsymbol{\lambda} + \boldsymbol{\alpha})} = - \sum_{n_2 > n_1 \geq 0} q^{2Q(\mathbf{n} + \boldsymbol{\lambda} + (\frac{1}{2}, 0))},$$

$$\sum_{\alpha \in \{(0, -\frac{1}{2}), (0, \frac{1}{2})\}} \kappa(\alpha) \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}^2} \min(n_1, n_2) q^{2Q(n+\lambda+\alpha)} = - \sum_{n_1 > n_2 \geq 0} q^{2Q(n+\lambda+(0, \frac{1}{2}))}.$$

This finishes the proof of Lemma 3.4. □

We next rewrite the right-hand side of Proposition 3.3. For this, we let

$$\varrho_{n_1, n_2} := \frac{1}{2}(\operatorname{sgn}^*(n_1) + \operatorname{sgn}^*(n_2)).$$

Lemma 3.5. *For $r \in \mathbb{Z}^2$, we have*

$$\frac{\eta(\tau)^5}{\eta(2\tau)} \operatorname{coeff}_{[\zeta_1^{r_1}, \zeta_2^{r_2}]} f(\mathbf{z}; \tau) = \sum_{\substack{n_1 \geq 0 \\ n_2 \in \mathbb{Z}}} \varrho_{n_2, n_2+r_2} (-1)^{n_1} q^{\frac{n_1(n_1+1)}{2} + n_1 n_2 + 2n_2^2 + r_1 n_1 + 2r_2 n_2 + 2n_2 + r_2 + \frac{1}{2}},$$

where ζ_j ($j \in \{1, 2\}$) satisfy $|q| < |\zeta_j| < 1$, $|q| < |\zeta_1 \zeta_2| < 1$.

Proof: Using the product expansion of ϑ we can easily verify that

$$\frac{\vartheta(z; 2\tau)}{\vartheta(z; \tau)} = -i\zeta^{-\frac{1}{2}} q^{-\frac{1}{4}} \frac{\eta(2\tau)^2}{\eta(\tau)\vartheta(z+\tau; 2\tau)}.$$

Using this identity twice we find that the left-hand side of Lemma 3.5 equals

$$\ell(\tau) := q^{\frac{1}{2}} \operatorname{coeff}_{[\zeta_1^{r_1}, \zeta_2^{r_2}]} \frac{-i\zeta_1^{-\frac{1}{2}} \eta(\tau)^3}{\vartheta(z_1; \tau)} h(\mathbf{z}; \tau),$$

where

$$h(\mathbf{z}; \tau) := -\frac{i\eta(2\tau)^3 \zeta_2^{-1} q^{-1} \vartheta(z_1; 2\tau)}{\vartheta(z_2 + \tau; 2\tau) \vartheta(z_1 + z_2 + \tau; 2\tau)}.$$

We next rewrite $h(\mathbf{z}; \tau)$. For this we recall an identity going back to Jordan and Kronecker (which can be concluded from Theorem 3 of [24]), which holds for $|q| < |\zeta_1| < 1$,

$$\frac{-i\eta(\tau)^3 \vartheta(z_1 + z_2; \tau)}{\vartheta(z_1; \tau) \vartheta(z_2; \tau)} = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \frac{\zeta_1^n}{1 - \zeta_2 q^n} = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}^2} \varrho_{n_1, n_2} q^{n_1 n_2} \zeta_1^{n_1} \zeta_2^{n_2}. \quad (3.4)$$

For the last equality, we use the geometric series expansion to find that, for $|q| < |\zeta_2| < 1$,

$$\frac{1}{1 - \zeta_2 q^n} = \sum_{n_1 \in \mathbb{Z}} \varrho_{n_1, n} q^{n_1 n} \zeta_2^{n_1}. \quad (3.5)$$

From (2.1) and (3.4) we have, for $|q| < |\zeta_2| < 1$, $|q| < |\zeta_1 \zeta_2| < 1$,

$$h(\mathbf{z}; \tau) = -\frac{i\eta(2\tau)^3 \vartheta(-z_1 + 2\tau; 2\tau)}{\vartheta(z_2 + \tau; 2\tau) \vartheta(-z_1 - z_2 + \tau; 2\tau)} = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}^2} \varrho_{n_1, n_2} q^{2n_1 n_2 + n_1 + n_2} \zeta_1^{-n_2} \zeta_2^{n_1 - n_2}.$$

We also need the following partial fraction decomposition, which holds for $|q| < |\zeta_1| < 1$ (see [1, equation (2.1)]), using again (3.5),

$$-\frac{i\zeta_1^{-\frac{1}{2}} \eta(\tau)^3}{\vartheta(z_1; \tau)} = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \frac{(-1)^n q^{\frac{n(n+1)}{2}}}{1 - \zeta_1 q^n} = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}^2} \varrho_{n_1, n_2} (-1)^{n_1} q^{\frac{n_1(n_1+1)}{2} + n_1 n_2} \zeta_1^{n_2}.$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned}\ell(\tau) &= q^{\frac{1}{2}} \text{coeff}_{[\zeta_1^{r_1}, \zeta_2^{r_2}]} \sum_{\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{Z}^4} \varrho_{n_1, n_2} \varrho_{n_3, n_4} (-1)^{n_1} q^{\frac{n_1(n_1+1)}{2} + n_1 n_2 + 2n_3 n_4 + n_3 + n_4} \zeta_1^{n_2 - n_4} \zeta_2^{n_3 - n_4} \\ &= \sum_{\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{Z}^2} \varrho_{n_1, n_2 + r_1} \varrho_{n_2 + r_2, n_2} (-1)^{n_1} q^{\frac{n_1(n_1+1)}{2} + n_1 n_2 + 2n_2^2 + r_1 n_1 + 2r_2 n_2 + 2n_2 + r_2 + \frac{1}{2}}.\end{aligned}$$

Using that

$$\sum_{n_1 \in \mathbb{Z}} (-1)^{n_1} q^{\frac{n_1(n_1+1)}{2} + (n_2 + r_1)n_1} = 0,$$

we may conclude that

$$\sum_{n_1 \in \mathbb{Z}} \varrho_{n_1, n_2 + r_1} (-1)^{n_1} q^{\frac{n_1(n_1+1)}{2} + (n_2 + r_1)n_1} = \sum_{n_1 \geq 0} (-1)^{n_1} q^{\frac{n_1(n_1+1)}{2} + (n_2 + r_1)n_1}.$$

This then gives the claim of the lemma. \square

We are now ready to prove Proposition 3.3.

Proof of Proposition 3.3: We use the identity ($\mathbf{m} \in \mathbb{Q}^2$)

$$Q(\mathbf{m}) = Q(m_1 - m_2, -m_2) = Q(-m_1, m_2 - m_1),$$

and Lemma 3.4, to rewrite

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{G}_\lambda(\tau) &= \sum_{n_1 \geq n_2 \geq 0} q^{2Q(\mathbf{n} + \lambda + (\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}))} + \sum_{n_2 > n_1 \geq 0} q^{2Q(\mathbf{n} + \lambda + (\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}))} \\ &\quad - \sum_{n_2 > n_1 \geq 0} q^{2Q(\mathbf{n} + \lambda + (\frac{1}{2}, 0))} - \sum_{n_1 > n_2 \geq 0} q^{2Q(\mathbf{n} + \lambda + (0, \frac{1}{2}))} \\ &= \sum_{n_1 \geq n_2 \geq 0} q^{2Q(n_1 - n_2 + \lambda_1 - \lambda_2, -n_2 - \lambda_2 - \frac{1}{2})} + \sum_{n_2 > n_1 \geq 0} q^{2Q(-n_1 - \lambda_1 - \frac{1}{2}, n_2 - n_1 + \lambda_2 - \lambda_1)} \\ &\quad - \sum_{n_2 > n_1 \geq 0} q^{2Q(-n_1 - \lambda_1 - \frac{1}{2}, n_2 - n_1 + \lambda_2 - \lambda_1 - \frac{1}{2})} - \sum_{n_1 > n_2 \geq 0} q^{2Q(n_1 - n_2 + \lambda_1 - \lambda_2 - \frac{1}{2}, -n_2 - \lambda_2 - \frac{1}{2})} \\ &= \sum_{\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{N}_0^2} \left(q^{2Q(n_1 + \lambda_1 - \lambda_2, -n_2 - \lambda_2 - \frac{1}{2})} + q^{2Q(-n_1 - \lambda_1 - \frac{1}{2}, n_2 + \lambda_2 - \lambda_1 + 1)} \right. \\ &\quad \left. - q^{2Q(-n_1 - \lambda_1 - \frac{1}{2}, n_2 + \lambda_2 - \lambda_1 + \frac{1}{2})} - q^{2Q(n_1 + \lambda_1 - \lambda_2 + \frac{1}{2}, -n_2 - \lambda_2 - \frac{1}{2})} \right)\end{aligned}$$

shifting $n_1 \mapsto n_1 + n_2$ in the first sum, $n_2 \mapsto n_1 + n_2 + 1$ in the second and third sum, and $n_1 \mapsto n_1 + n_2 + 1$ in the final term. Combining the first and the last sum, and also the second and the third sum, we get

$$\mathbb{G}_\lambda(\tau) = \sum_{\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{N}_0^2} (-1)^{n_1} q^{Q(\frac{n_1}{2} + \lambda_1 - \lambda_2, -n_2 - \lambda_2 - \frac{1}{2})} - \sum_{\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{N}_0^2} (-1)^{n_2} q^{Q(-n_1 - \lambda_1 - \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}(n_2 + 1) + \lambda_2 - \lambda_1)}.$$

We now assume that $\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 \in \mathbb{Z}$. Substituting $\mathbf{n} \mapsto (-1 - \lambda_1 - \lambda_2 - n_2, -1 - n_1)$, we see that the second sum equals

$$\sum_{\substack{n_1 < 0 \\ n_2 < -\lambda_1 - \lambda_2}} (-1)^{n_1} q^{Q(n_2 + \lambda_2 + \frac{1}{2}, -\frac{n_1}{2} + \lambda_2 - \lambda_1)}.$$

Using $Q(\mathbf{m}) = Q(-m_2, -m_1)$ we find that

$$\mathbb{G}_\lambda(\tau) = \left(\sum_{\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{N}_0^2} + \sum_{\substack{n_1 < 0 \\ n_2 < -\lambda_1 - \lambda_2}} \right) (-1)^{n_1} q^{Q(\frac{n_1}{2} + \lambda_1 - \lambda_2, -n_2 - \lambda_2 - \frac{1}{2})}.$$

In particular, using this with $\lambda_1 = \frac{1}{3}(r_1 + r_2)$ and $\lambda_2 = \frac{1}{3}(2r_2 - r_1)$ (note that $\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 = r_2 \in \mathbb{Z}$ is satisfied) we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned} q^{-\frac{2}{3}Q(\mathbf{r})} \mathbb{G}_{\frac{1}{3}(r_1+r_2, 2r_2-r_1)}(\tau) &= \left(\sum_{\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{N}_0^2} + \sum_{\substack{n_1 < 0 \\ n_2 < -r_2}} \right) (-1)^{n_1} q^{\frac{n_1(n_1+1)}{2} + n_1 n_2 + 2n_2^2 + r_1 n_1 + 2r_2 n_2 + 2n_2 + r_2 + \frac{1}{2}} \\ &= \sum_{n_1 \geq 0} \left(\sum_{n_2 \geq 0} - \sum_{n_2 < -r_2} \right) (-1)^{n_1} q^{\frac{n_1(n_1+1)}{2} + n_1 n_2 + 2n_2^2 + r_1 n_1 + 2r_2 n_2 + 2n_2 + r_2 + \frac{1}{2}} \\ &= \sum_{\substack{n_1 \geq 0 \\ n_2 \in \mathbb{Z}}} \varrho_{n_2, n_2+r_2} (-1)^{n_1} q^{\frac{n_1(n_1+1)}{2} + n_1 n_2 + 2n_2^2 + r_1 n_1 + 2r_2 n_2 + 2n_2 + r_2 + \frac{1}{2}}, \end{aligned}$$

where in the penultimate step we use the same argument as at the end of the proof of Lemma 3.5. Applying Lemma 3.5 gives the claim for $|q| < |\zeta_j| < 1$, $|q| < |\zeta_1 \zeta_2| < 1$. Using

$$\frac{\vartheta(z; 2\tau)}{\vartheta(z; \tau)} = \frac{q^{\frac{1}{8}}(-q; q)_\infty}{(\zeta q, \zeta^{-1}q; q^2)_\infty} \quad (3.6)$$

combined with the uniqueness of the Laurent expansion inside the domain $|q| < |\zeta_j| < |q|^{-1}$, $|q| < |\zeta_1 \zeta_2| < |q|^{-1}$ extends the claim to that domain. \square

3.3. Combining the results.

Proof of Theorem 3.1 and Theorem 1.1: We use Proposition 3.2 and then Proposition 3.3 (with $\mathbf{r} \mapsto (2r_1 - r_2, r_1 + r_2)$) to obtain

$$\text{coeff}_{[\zeta_1^{r_1}, \zeta_2^{r_2}]} F(\zeta_1, \zeta_2; q) = \mathbb{G}_{\mathbf{r}}(\tau) = q^{2Q(\mathbf{r})} \frac{\eta(\tau)^5}{\eta(2\tau)} \text{coeff}_{[\zeta_1^{2r_1-r_2}, \zeta_2^{r_1+r_2}]} f(\mathbf{z}; \tau)$$

as claimed in Theorem 3.1. In particular, this yields Theorem 1.1, using Proposition 2.1 to conclude the transformation properties of f . \square

4. FOURIER COEFFICIENTS OF ADDITIONAL CHARACTERS

In this section we compute the Fourier coefficients of two additional characters from [20]. Again $p = 2$, Lemma 3.5 immediately implies the following special case.

Corollary 4.1. *We have*

$$\frac{\eta(\tau)^5}{\eta(2\tau)} \text{CT}_{[\zeta_1, \zeta_2]} f(\mathbf{z}; \tau) = \sum_{\substack{n_1 \geq 0 \\ n_2 \in \mathbb{Z}}} \text{sgn}^*(n_2) (-1)^{n_1} q^{\frac{n_1(n_1+1)}{2} + n_1 n_2 + 2n_2^2 + 2n_2 + \frac{1}{2}},$$

where $\text{CT}_{[\zeta_1, \zeta_2]} := \text{coeff}_{[\zeta_1^0, \zeta_2^0]}$.

In addition to characters discussed in (1.2), Kac and Wakimoto also obtained character formulas for modules $L(-\frac{3}{2}\Lambda_j)$, for $1 \leq j \leq N-1$ [20, p.130]. For $N=3$ we have two additional modules, namely $L(-\frac{3}{2}\Lambda_1)$ and $L(-\frac{3}{2}\Lambda_2)$. The relevant Fourier coefficients for these characters are

$$\mathbb{H}_r(\tau) := -\frac{\eta(\tau)^5}{\eta(2\tau)} \text{coeff}_{[\zeta_1^{r_1}, \zeta_2^{r_2}]} \frac{\vartheta(z_1; 2\tau)\vartheta_{01}(z_2; 2\tau)\vartheta_{01}(z_1+z_2; 2\tau)}{\vartheta(z_1; \tau)\vartheta(z_2; \tau)\vartheta(z_1+z_2; \tau)}, \quad r_1 \in \frac{1}{2} + \mathbb{Z}, \quad r_2 \in \mathbb{Z},$$

where the range is $|q| < |\zeta_j| < |1|$, $|q| < |\zeta_1\zeta_2| < 1$ and where

$$\vartheta_{01}(z; \tau) := \left(q, \zeta q^{\frac{1}{2}}, \zeta^{-1} q^{\frac{1}{2}}; q \right)_\infty.$$

The next results shows that the Fourier coefficient \mathbb{H}_r is essentially \mathbb{G}_λ for some $\lambda \in \mathbb{Q}^2$.

Proposition 4.2. *For $p=2$ and for every $r_1 \in \frac{1}{2} + \mathbb{Z}$, $r_2 \in \mathbb{Z}$, we have*

$$\mathbb{H}_r(\tau) = q^{-\frac{2}{3}Q(r)} \mathbb{G}_{\left(\frac{1}{3}(r_1+r_2)-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}(2r_2-r_1)-\frac{1}{2}\right)}(\tau).$$

Proof: First we conclude from (3.6) that

$$\frac{\vartheta_{01}(z; 2\tau)}{\vartheta(z; \tau)} = iq^{-\frac{1}{4}}\zeta^{\frac{1}{2}} \left[\frac{\vartheta(z; 2\tau)}{\vartheta(z; \tau)} \right]_{\zeta \mapsto q^{-1}\zeta}.$$

This implies that

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{coeff}_{[\zeta_1^{r_1}, \zeta_2^{r_2}]} \frac{\vartheta(z_1; 2\tau)\vartheta_{01}(z_2; 2\tau)\vartheta_{01}(z_1+z_2; 2\tau)}{\vartheta(z_1; \tau)\vartheta(z_2; \tau)\vartheta(z_1+z_2; \tau)} \\ &= -q^{\frac{1}{2}} \text{coeff}_{[\zeta_1^{r_1}, \zeta_2^{r_2}]} \left[\frac{\zeta_1^{\frac{1}{2}}\zeta_2\vartheta(z_1; 2\tau)\vartheta(z_2; 2\tau)\vartheta(z_1+z_2; 2\tau)}{\vartheta(z_1; \tau)\vartheta(z_2; \tau)\vartheta(z_1+z_2; \tau)} \right]_{\zeta_2 \mapsto q^{-1}\zeta_2} \\ &= -q^{\frac{1}{2}-r_2} \text{coeff}_{[\zeta_1^{r_1}, \zeta_2^{r_2}]} \frac{\zeta_2\zeta_1^{\frac{1}{2}}\vartheta(z_1; 2\tau)\vartheta(z_2; 2\tau)\vartheta(z_1+z_2; 2\tau)}{\vartheta(z_1; \tau)\vartheta(z_2; \tau)\vartheta(z_1+z_2; \tau)} = -q^{\frac{1}{2}-r_2} \text{coeff}_{[\zeta_1^{r_1-\frac{1}{2}}, \zeta_2^{r_2-1}]} f(\mathbf{z}; \tau), \end{aligned}$$

where we use (3.6) to justify that the coefficients do not change under the substitution $\zeta_2 \mapsto q^{-1}\zeta_2$ above. We apply this and Proposition 3.3 to obtain, as claimed

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{H}_r(\tau) &= \frac{\eta(\tau)^5}{\eta(2\tau)} q^{\frac{1}{2}-r_2} \text{coeff}_{[\zeta_1^{r_1-\frac{1}{2}}, \zeta_2^{r_2-1}]} f(\mathbf{z}; \tau) \\ &= q^{\frac{1}{2}-r_2} q^{-\frac{2}{3}Q(r_1-\frac{1}{2}, r_2-1)} \mathbb{G}_{\frac{1}{3}(r_1-\frac{1}{2}+r_2-1, 2r_2-2-r_1+\frac{1}{2})}(\tau) = q^{-\frac{2}{3}Q(r)} \mathbb{G}_{\left(\frac{1}{3}(r_1+r_2)-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}(2r_2-r_1)-\frac{1}{2}\right)}(\tau). \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

5. q -HYPERGEOMETRIC FORMULAS AND THE PROOF OF THEOREM 1.2

In this section, we study q -hypergeometric representations of the series \mathbb{G}_r introduced in Section 3 and in particular prove Theorem 1.2. Again we assume that $p=2$. We first require an auxiliary lemma.

Lemma 5.1. *For $|q| < |\zeta|^2 < 1$, we have*

$$\frac{1}{\left(\zeta q^{\frac{1}{2}}, \zeta^{-1} q^{\frac{1}{2}}; q\right)_\infty} = \frac{1}{(q; q)_\infty^2} \sum_{\substack{n_1 \in \mathbb{Z} \\ n_2 \geq |n_1|}} (-1)^{n_1+n_2} q^{\frac{n_2(n_2+1)}{2} - \frac{n_1^2}{2}} \zeta^{n_1} = \sum_{\substack{n_1 \in \mathbb{Z} \\ n_2 \geq 0}} \frac{q^{\frac{|n_1|}{2}+n_2}}{(q; q)_{n_2} (q; q)_{|n_1|+n_2}} \zeta^{n_1}.$$

Proof: The first equality follows directly by setting $z = \zeta q^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ in [1, Lemma 1].

For the second equality, we recall [2, (2.2.5)], which states that for $|q| < |\zeta| < 1$,

$$\frac{1}{(\zeta; q)_\infty} = \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{\zeta^n}{(q; q)_n}.$$

Using this, we obtain

$$\frac{1}{\left(\zeta q^{\frac{1}{2}}, \zeta^{-1} q^{\frac{1}{2}}; q\right)_\infty} = \sum_{\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{N}_0^2} \frac{q^{\frac{n_1+n_2}{2}}}{(q; q)_{n_1} (q; q)_{n_2}} \zeta^{n_1-n_2}.$$

The second identity of Lemma 5.1 then follows by letting $(n_1, n_2) \mapsto (n_1 + n_2, n_2)$ if $n_1 \geq n_2$ and $(n_1, n_2) \mapsto (n_2, n_2 - n_1)$ if $n_1 < n_2$. \square

Remark 2. We record another identity similar to the one in Lemma 5.1, namely

$$\frac{1}{\left(\zeta q^{\frac{1}{2}}, \zeta^{-1} q^{\frac{1}{2}}; q\right)_\infty} = \frac{1}{(q; q)_\infty} \sum_{\substack{n_1 \in \mathbb{Z} \\ n_2 \geq 0}} \frac{q^{n_2^2 + n_2(|n_1|+1) + \frac{|n_1|}{2}}}{(q; q)_{n_2} (q; q)_{|n_1|+n_2}} \zeta^{n_1}. \quad (5.1)$$

This equality can be established by proving that the middle expression in Lemma 5.1 equals the right-hand side of (5.1)

$$\frac{1}{(q; q)_\infty^2} \sum_{\substack{\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{Z}^2 \\ n_2 \geq |n_1|}} (-1)^{n_1+n_2} q^{\frac{n_2(n_2+1)}{2} - \frac{n_1^2}{2}} \zeta^{n_1} = \frac{1}{(q; q)_\infty} \sum_{\substack{n_1 \in \mathbb{Z} \\ n_2 \geq 0}} \frac{q^{n_2^2 + n_2(|n_1|+1) + \frac{|n_1|}{2}}}{(q; q)_{n_2} (q; q)_{|n_1|+n_2}} \zeta^{n_1}.$$

This follows from Ramanujan's identity [6, p.18, entry 9] after a simple substitution. For related identities see [10, Chapter 7] and [22].

Next we generalize Lemma 5.1 to “rank two”. For this, we set

$$G_{\mathbf{r}}(q) := \sum_{\substack{\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{N}_0^3 \\ n_4 \in \mathbb{Z}}} \frac{q^{n_1+n_2+n_3+\frac{1}{2}(|n_4-r_1|+|n_4-r_2|+|n_4|)}}{(q; q)_{n_1} (q; q)_{n_1+|n_4-r_1|} (q; q)_{n_2} (q; q)_{n_2+|n_4-r_2|} (q; q)_{n_3} (q; q)_{n_3+|n_4|}}.$$

Applying Proposition 3.3, then Lemma 5.1 three times, and

$$\frac{\vartheta(z; 2\tau)}{\vartheta(z; \tau)} = \frac{q^{\frac{1}{12}} \eta(2\tau)}{\eta(\tau) (\zeta q, \zeta^{-1} q; q^2)_\infty}, \quad (5.2)$$

immediately implies the following proposition.

Proposition 5.2. *We have, for $p = 2$ and $\mathbf{r} \in \mathbb{Z}^2$,*

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{q^{-\frac{1}{4} - \frac{2}{3}Q(\mathbf{r})}}{\eta(\tau)^2 \eta(2\tau)^2} \mathbb{G}_{\frac{1}{3}(r_1+r_2, 2r_2-r_1)}(\tau) \\ &= \text{coeff}_{[\zeta_1^{r_1}, \zeta_2^{r_2}]} \frac{1}{\left(\zeta_1 q^{\frac{1}{2}}, \zeta_1^{-1} q^{\frac{1}{2}}, \zeta_2 q^{\frac{1}{2}}, \zeta_2^{-1} q^{\frac{1}{2}}, \zeta_1 \zeta_2 q^{\frac{1}{2}}, \zeta_1^{-1} \zeta_2^{-1} q^{\frac{1}{2}}; q\right)_\infty} = G_{\mathbf{r}}(q). \end{aligned}$$

Now we are ready to prove the q -hypergeometric formula in Theorem 1.2.

Proof of Theorem 1.2: Using (5.2) we can rewrite Proposition 5.2 as

$$q^{-\frac{1}{4}} \frac{\eta(\tau)^3}{\eta(2\tau)^3} \text{coeff}_{[\zeta_1^{r_1}, \zeta_2^{r_2}]} f(\mathbf{z}; \tau) = G_{\mathbf{r}}(q^2). \quad (5.3)$$

Plugging in the definition of $G_{(0,0)}$, $(q; q)_{\infty} = q^{-\frac{1}{24}} \eta(\tau)$, and then equation (5.3) gives that the right-hand side of Theorem 1.2 equals

$$q^{-\frac{1}{2}} \frac{\eta(\tau)^5}{\eta(2\tau)} \text{coeff}_{[\zeta_1^0, \zeta_2^0]} f(\mathbf{z}; \tau).$$

The claim now follows by applying Lemma 3.5. □

As a corollary, we find a q -hypergeometric type identity for $F(\zeta_1, \zeta_2; q)$.

Corollary 5.3. *We have, for $p = 2$,*

$$q^{-\frac{1}{4}} F(\zeta_1, \zeta_2; q) = \eta(\tau)^2 \eta(2\tau)^2 \sum_{\mathbf{r} \in \mathbb{Z}^2} q^{2Q(\mathbf{r})} G_{(2r_1 - r_2, r_1 + r_2)}(q^2) \zeta_1^{r_1} \zeta_2^{r_2}.$$

Remark 3. As explained in Section 4, Theorem 1.2 can be viewed as a rank two analogue of the identity in Lemma 5.1. However, Warnaar [22, Section 5] obtained another identity for the false theta with an additional parameter w and no infinite products

$$\sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{(q; q^2)_n (wq; q^2)_n (wq)^n}{(-wq; q)_{2n+1}} = \sum_{n \geq 0} (-1)^n q^{n^2} w^n.$$

This remarkable identity can be used for explicit computation of radial limits of various partial and false theta functions at root of unity [11, 18]. It would be very interesting to find a similar identity for the rank two false theta functions studied in this paper, presumably with two additional parameters.

6. A JACOBI FORM OF INDEX ZERO AND $\lim_{(\zeta_1, \zeta_2) \rightarrow (1,1)} F(\zeta_1, \zeta_2; q)$

In this section we are interested in the limit

$$F_0(q) := \lim_{(\zeta_1, \zeta_2) \rightarrow (1,1)} F(\zeta_1, \zeta_2; q),$$

which we realize for $p = 2$ as a Fourier coefficient of a Jacobi form in two variables. In [11, Example 4.3], the first and the third author established the following identity for every $p \geq 2$

$$F_0(q) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{Z}^2} (2n_1 - n_2)(2n_2 - n_1)(n_1 + n_2) q^{pQ(\mathbf{n} - (\frac{1}{p}, \frac{1}{p}))}.$$

Due to the harmonicity of the coefficients in F_0 , this function is a sum of modular forms of positive integral weight of at most four [11, Example 4.3]. As in Section 3, we find the following simplification for $p = 2$.

Proposition 6.1. *For $p = 2$, we have*

$$F_0(q) = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{Z}^2} (12n_1 n_2 - 3n_1^2 - 3n_2^2 - n_1 - n_2) q^{2Q(\mathbf{n} - (\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}))}.$$

Proof: Using the involution $\mathbf{n} \mapsto -\mathbf{n} + (1, 1)$ (under which $Q(\mathbf{n} - (\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}))$ is invariant), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} 2F_0(q) &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{Z}^2} (2n_1 - n_2)(2n_2 - n_1)(n_1 + n_2) q^{2Q(\mathbf{n} - (\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}))} \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{Z}^2} (-2n_1 + n_2 + 1)(-2n_2 + n_1 + 1)(-n_1 - n_2 + 2) q^{2Q(\mathbf{n} - (\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}))} \\ &= \sum_{\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{Z}^2} (-n_1 - n_2 + 1) q^{2Q(\mathbf{n} - (\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}))} + \sum_{\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{Z}^2} (6n_1n_2 - \frac{3}{2}n_1^2 - \frac{3}{2}n_2^2 - \frac{1}{2}n_1 - \frac{1}{2}n_2) q^{2Q(\mathbf{n} - (\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}))}. \end{aligned}$$

Using again the involution $\mathbf{n} \mapsto -\mathbf{n} + (1, 1)$ implies that

$$\sum_{\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{Z}^2} (n_1 + n_2 - 1) q^{2Q(\mathbf{n} - (\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}))} = 0,$$

yielding the claim. \square

To express F_0 as the constant term of a multivariable Jacobi form (of index zero and weight 3) we require

$$J(\mathbf{z}; \tau) := \frac{\eta(\tau)^5}{\eta(2\tau)} \mathcal{T}(\mathbf{z}; \tau) f(\mathbf{z}; \tau).$$

Directly from Proposition 2.1 and the transformation behaviour of η , we obtain the following statement.

Lemma 6.2. *The function J is a Jacobi form of index zero and weight three. To be more precise, for $\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in \Gamma_0(6)$, $\mathbf{m} \in 2\mathbb{Z}^2$, and $\ell \in \mathbb{Z}^2$, we have*

$$\begin{aligned} J\left(\frac{\mathbf{z}}{c\tau + d}; \frac{a\tau + b}{c\tau + d}\right) &= \mu \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} (c\tau + d)^3 J(\mathbf{z}; \tau), \\ J(\mathbf{z} + \mathbf{m}\tau + \ell; \tau) &= J(\mathbf{z}; \tau), \end{aligned}$$

where $\mu \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} := \chi \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}^2 \chi \begin{pmatrix} a & 2b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}^8$.

The following proposition then indeed realizes F_0 as the constant term of J .

Proposition 6.3. *For $p = 2$, we have*

$$F_0(q) = \text{CT}_{[\zeta_1, \zeta_2]} J(\mathbf{z}; \tau).$$

Proof: By Proposition 3.2 and Proposition 3.3, we have

$$\begin{aligned} F_0(q) &= \lim_{(\zeta_1, \zeta_2) \rightarrow (1, 1)} F(\zeta_1, \zeta_2; q) = \lim_{(\zeta_1, \zeta_2) \rightarrow (1, 1)} \sum_{\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{Z}^2} \mathbb{G}_{\mathbf{n}}(q) \zeta_1^{n_1} \zeta_2^{n_2} = \sum_{\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{Z}^2} \mathbb{G}_{\mathbf{n}}(q) \\ &= \frac{\eta(\tau)^5}{\eta(2\tau)} \sum_{\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{Z}^2} q^{2Q(\mathbf{n})} \text{coeff}_{[\zeta_1^{n_1+n_2}, \zeta_2^{2n_1-n_2}]} f(\mathbf{z}; \tau) \\ &= \frac{\eta(\tau)^5}{\eta(2\tau)} \text{CT}_{[\zeta_1, \zeta_2]} f(\mathbf{z}; \tau) \sum_{\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{Z}^2} q^{2Q(\mathbf{n})} \zeta_1^{-n_1-n_2} \zeta_2^{n_2-2n_1} = \text{CT}_{[\zeta_1, \zeta_2]} J(\mathbf{z}; \tau). \end{aligned}$$

\square

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