Longitude Floer homology and the Whitehead double

EAMAN EFTEKHARY

Abstract We define the longitude Floer homology of a knot $K \subset S^3$ and show that it is a topological invariant of $K$. Some basic properties of these homology groups are derived. In particular, we show that they distinguish the genus of $K$. We also make explicit computations for the $(2, 2n+1)$ torus knots. Finally a correspondence between the longitude Floer homology of $K$ and the Ozsváth-Szabó Floer homology of its Whitehead double $K_L$ is obtained.

AMS Classification 57R58; 57M25, 57M27

Keywords Floer homology, knot, longitude, Whitehead double

1 Introduction and main results

Associated with a knot $K \subset S^3$, Ozsváth and Szabó have defined (2) a series of homology groups

$\widehat{HF}(K), HFK^\infty(K), \text{ and } HFK^\pm(K),$

which are graded by Spin$^c$-structures

$s \in \text{Spin}^c(S^3_0(K))$

of the three-manifold $S^3_0(K)$, obtained by a zero surgery on $K$.

In this paper, first we introduce a parallel construction called the longitude Floer homology.

The construction of Ozsváth and Szabó relies on, first finding a Heegaard diagram

$$(\Sigma, \alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_g; \beta_2, \ldots, \beta_g) = (\Sigma, \alpha, \beta_0)$$

for the knot complement in $S^3$. Then the meridian $\mu$ is added as a special curve to obtain a Heegaard diagram $$(\Sigma, \alpha, \{\mu\} \cup \beta_0)$$ for $S^3$. A point $v$ on $\mu - \bigcup_i \alpha_i$ is specified as well. One will then put two points $z, w$ on the two
sides of the curve $\mu$ close to $v$. The homology groups are constructed as the Floer homology associated with the totally real tori $T_\alpha = \alpha_1 \times \cdots \times \alpha_g$ and $T_\beta = \mu \times \beta_2 \times \cdots \times \beta_g$ in the symplectic manifold $\text{Sym}^g(\Sigma)$.

The marked points $z, w$ will filter the boundary maps and this leads to the Floer homology groups $\widehat{HF}_K(K)$, $HF_K^\infty(K)$ and $HF_K^\pm(K)$.

In this paper, instead of completing $(\Sigma; \alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_g; \beta_2, \ldots, \beta_g)$ to a Heegaard diagram for $S^3$ by adding the meridian of the knot $K$, we choose the special curve $\hat{\beta}_1$ to be the longitude of $K$ sitting on the surface $\Sigma$ and not cutting any of the $\beta$ curves. This choice is made so that it leads to a Heegaard diagram $(\Sigma; \alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_g; \hat{\beta}_1, \beta_2, \ldots, \beta_g)$ of the three-manifold $S^3_0(K)$, obtained by a zero surgery on the knot $K$. Similar to the construction of Ozsváth and Szabó we also fix a marked point $v$ on the curve $\hat{\beta}_1 - \bigcup_i \alpha_i$ and choose the base points $z, w$ next to it, on the two sides of $\hat{\beta}_1$.

We call the resulting Floer homology groups the longitude Floer homologies of the knot $K$, and denote them by $\widehat{HFL}_K(K)$, $HFL^\infty(K)$ and $HFL^\pm(K)$. These are graded by a Spin$^c$ grading $s \in \frac{1}{2} + \mathbb{Z}$ and a (relative) Maslov grading $m$.

Generally, the Spin$^c$ classes in $\text{Spin}^c(S^3_0(K))$ will be denoted by $s, s_1$, etc, while if an identification $\mathbb{Z} \cong \text{Spin}^c(S^3_0(K))$ is fixed these classes are denoted by $s, s_1$, etc. Similarly, in general classes in $\frac{1}{2} \text{PD}[\mu] + \text{Spin}^c(S^3_0(K))$ are denoted by $s, s_1$, etc, while under a fixed identification with $\frac{1}{2} + \mathbb{Z}$ they are denoted by $s, s_1$, etc.

We show that the following holds for this theory (cf. [8]):

**Theorem 1.1** Suppose that $g$ is the genus of the nontrivial knot $K \subset S^3$. Then

$$\widehat{HFL}(K, g - \frac{1}{2}) \cong \widehat{HFL}(K, -g + \frac{1}{2}) \neq 0,$$

and for any $t > g - \frac{1}{2}$ in $\frac{1}{2} + \mathbb{Z}$ the groups $\widehat{HFL}(K, t)$ and $\widehat{HFL}(K, -t)$ are both trivial. Furthermore, for any $t$ in $\frac{1}{2} + \mathbb{Z}$ there is an isomorphism of the relatively graded groups (graded by the Maslov index)

$$\widehat{HFL}(K, t) \cong \widehat{HFL}(K, -t).$$

Using some other results of Ozsváth and Szabó we also show that:

**Corollary 1.2** If $K$ is a fibered knot of genus $g$ then $\widehat{HFL}(K, \pm(g - \frac{1}{2}))$ will be equal to $\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}$.

In the second part of this paper we will construct a Heegaard diagram of the Whitehead double of a knot $K$ and will show a correspondence between the
longitude Floer homology of the given knot $K$ and the Ozsváth-Szabó Floer homology of the Whitehead double of $K$ in the non-trivial Spin$^c$ structure.

The Whitehead double of $K$ is a special case of a construction called the satellite construction. Suppose that

$$e : D^2 \times S^1 \to S^3$$

is an embedding such that $e(\{0\} \times S^1)$ represents the knot $K$, and such that $e(\{1\} \times S^1)$ has zero linking number with $e(\{0\} \times S^1)$. Let $L$ be a knot in $D^2 \times S^1$, and denote $e(L)$ by $K_L$. $K_L$ is called a satellite of the knot $K$.

The Alexander polynomial of $K_L$ may be easily expressed in terms of the Alexander polynomial of $K$ and $L$. In fact, if $L$ represents $n$ times the generator of the first homology of $D^2 \times S^1$, and $\Delta_K(t)$ and $\Delta_L(t)$ are the Alexander polynomials of $K$ and $L$, then the Alexander polynomial of $K_L$ is given by (see [1] for a proof)

$$\Delta_{K_L}(t) = \Delta_K(t^n) \cdot \Delta_L(t).$$

(1)

In particular, if $L$ is an embedding of the un-knot in $D^2 \times S^1$ which is shown in Figure 1, $K_L$ is called the Whitehead double of $K$.

![Figure 1](image-url)

Figure 1: The knot $L$ is used in the satellite construction to obtain the Whitehead double of a knot $K$.

The Alexander polynomial of the Whitehead double of a knot $K$ is always trivial for this choice of the framing for a knot $K$, given by $e(\{1\} \times S^1)$. It is known that the Whitehead double of a nontrivial knot, is nontrivial (see [1], for a proof). So the genus of $K_L$ is at least $1$. There is a surface of genus $1$ in $D^2 \times S^1$ which bounds the knot $L$. The image of this surface under the map $e$ will be a Seifert surface of genus $1$ for $K_L$. This shows that $g(K_L) = 1$. By the result of [8], $\widehat{HFK}(K_L, \pm 1)$ is nontrivial and $\widehat{HFK}(K_L, s) = 0$ for $|s| > 1$.

We will show that the Ozsváth-Szabó Floer homology (the hat theory) in the Spin$^c$ structures $\pm 1$ is in fact closely related to the longitude Floer homology introduced in the first part.
More precisely we show:

**Theorem 1.3** Let $K_L$ denote the Whitehead double of a knot $K$ in $S^3$. The Ozsváth-Szabó Floer homology group $\widetilde{HF}(K_L, 1)$ is isomorphic to

$$\widetilde{HF}(K) = \bigoplus_{i \in \mathbb{Z} + \frac{1}{2}} \widetilde{HF}(K, i)$$

as (relatively) $\mathbb{Z}$-graded abelian groups with the (relative) grading on both sides coming from the Maslov grading.

**Acknowledgment** This paper is part of my PhD thesis in Princeton, and I would like to use this opportunity to thank my advisor Zoltán Szabó for all his help and support. I would also like to thank Peter Ozsváth for helpful discussions, Jake Rasmussen for pointing out a mistake in an earlier version of this paper, and the referee for useful comments.

## 2 Construction of longitude homology

Suppose that an oriented knot $K$ is given in $S^3$. We may consider a Heegaard diagram $(\Sigma_g; \alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_g; \hat{\beta}_1, \beta_2, \ldots, \beta_g; v)$ such that $\Sigma_g$ is a Riemann surface of genus $g$ and $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_g)$ and $\beta = (\hat{\beta}_1, \beta_2, \ldots, \beta_g) = \{\hat{\beta}_1\} \cup \beta_0$ are two $g$-tuples of disjoint simple closed loops on $\Sigma_g$ such that the elements of each $g$-tuple are linearly independent in the first homology of $\Sigma_g$. Here $v$ is a marked point on $\hat{\beta}_1 - \alpha$. We assume furthermore that $(\Sigma_g; \alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_g; \beta_2, \ldots, \beta_g)$ is a Heegaard diagram for the complement of the knot $K$ in $S^3$, and that $\hat{\beta}_1$ represents the oriented longitude of the knot $K$. We assume that $\hat{\beta}_1$ is chosen so that the whole Heegaard diagram

$$(\Sigma_g; \alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_g; \hat{\beta}_1, \beta_2, \ldots, \beta_g) = (\Sigma_g; \alpha; \beta)$$

is a Heegaard diagram for the three-manifold $S^3_0(K)$ obtained by a zero surgery on the knot $K$.

Choose two base points $z, w$ in the complement

$$\Sigma_g - \alpha - \beta,$$

very close to the marked point $v$ on $l = \hat{\beta}_1$, such that $z$ is on the right hand side and $w$ is on the left hand side of $l$ with respect to the orientation of $l$ and that of $\Sigma$ coming from the handlebody determined by $(\mu, \beta_2, \ldots, \beta_g)$. Here $\mu$ represents the meridian of $K$. The usual construction of Ozsváth and Szabó

*Algebraic & Geometric Topology, Volume 5 (2005)*
works to give us a well defined Floer homology theory associated with this setup.

Namely we may consider the two tori
\[ T_\alpha = \alpha_1 \times \ldots \times \alpha_g, \quad T_\beta = \hat{\beta}_1 \times \ldots \times \hat{\beta}_g \subset \text{Sym}^g(\Sigma_g) \]
as two totally real subspaces of the symplectic manifold \( \text{Sym}^g(\Sigma_g) \), which is the \( g \)-th symmetric product of the surface \( \Sigma_g \). If the curves are transverse on \( \Sigma_g \) then these two \( g \) dimensional submanifolds will intersect each other transversely in finitely many points. The complexes \( CFL^\infty, CFL^\pm \) and \( \hat{CFL} \) are generated by the generators \[ [x, i, j], \quad i, j \in \mathbb{Z}, \]
in the infinity theory, by \[ [x, i, j], \quad i, j \in \mathbb{Z} \leq 0 \] in the negative case and by the elements \[ [x, 0, 0] \] in the hat theory, where \( x \) is an intersection point of \( T_\alpha \) and \( T_\beta \). If \( x \in T_\alpha \cap T_\beta \) then \( x \) will appear as the quotient of the embedding
\[ 0 \rightarrow CFL^-(K) \rightarrow CFL^\infty(K). \]

For any two intersection points \( x, y \in T_\alpha \cap T_\beta \) there is a well-defined element \( \epsilon(x, y) \in H_1(S^3_0(K)) \) defined as follows:

Choose a path \( \gamma_\alpha \) from \( x \) to \( y \) in \( T_\alpha \) and a path \( \gamma_\beta \) from \( y \) to \( x \) in \( T_\beta \). \( \gamma_\alpha + \gamma_\beta \) will represent an element of \( H_1(\text{Sym}^g(\Sigma_g), \mathbb{Z}) \) which is well-defined modulo \( H_1(T_\alpha, \mathbb{Z}) \oplus H_1(T_\beta, \mathbb{Z}) \). Thus, we will get our desired element
\[ \epsilon(x, y) = [\gamma_\alpha + \gamma_\beta] \in \frac{H_1(\text{Sym}^g(\Sigma_g), \mathbb{Z})}{H_1(T_\alpha, \mathbb{Z}) \oplus H_1(T_\beta, \mathbb{Z})} \cong H_1(S^3_0(K), \mathbb{Z}). \]

This first homology group is \( H_1(S^3_0(K), \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z} \), so we will get a relative \( \mathbb{Z} \)-grading on the set of generators. There will be maps
\[ s_z, s_w : T_\alpha \cap T_\beta \rightarrow \text{Spin}^c(S^3_0(K)) \]
as in [2][4], which may be defined using each of the points \( z \) or \( w \). Note that our maps \( s_z, s_w \) were called \( s_z, s_w \) in [2][4]. Unlike the standard Heegaard Floer homology of Ozsváth and Szabó, \( s_z(x) \) does not agree with the \( \text{Spin}^c \) structure \( s_w(x) \). However, we will have
\[ s_z(x) = s_w(x) + \text{PD}[\mu], \]
where \( \mu \) is the meridian of the knot \( K \), thought of as a closed loop in \( S^3_0(K) \), generating its first homology (cf. [2], lemma 2.19). We may either decide to assign the \( \text{Spin}^c \) structure \( s_z(x) \) to \( x \), or more invariantly define
\[ s(x) = \frac{s_z(x) + s_w(x)}{2} \in \frac{1}{2}\text{PD}[\mu] + \text{Spin}^c(S^3_0(K)) \cong \frac{1}{2} + \mathbb{Z}. \]
We will frequently switch between these two choices, distinguishing them by the name of the maps, i.e. $s_z$ versus $s$. Also, the elements of Spin$^c(S^3_0(K))$ will be denoted by $s, s_1$, etc, while the elements of $\frac{1}{2}\text{PD}[\mu] + \text{Spin}^c(S^3_0(K))$ will be denoted by $\tilde{s}, \tilde{s}_1$, etc (and if an identification with $\mathbb{Z}$ (resp. $\frac{1}{2} + \mathbb{Z}$) is fixed, by $s, s_1$, etc. (resp. $\tilde{s}, \tilde{s}_1$, etc)).

If $\epsilon(x, y) = 0$, which is the same as $s_z(x) = s_z(y)$, then there is a family of homotopy classes of disks with boundary in $T_\alpha$ and $T_\beta$, connecting $x$ and $y$. Note that to each map $u: [0, 1] \times \mathbb{R} \to \text{Sym}^g(\Sigma_g)$

$$u(\{0\} \times \mathbb{R}) \subset T_\alpha, \quad u(\{1\} \times \mathbb{R}) \subset T_\beta,$$

$$u(s, t) \to x \quad \text{as} \quad t \to \infty, \quad u(s, t) \to y \quad \text{as} \quad t \to -\infty,$$

we may assign a domain $\mathcal{D}(u)$ on $\Sigma_g$ as follows: Choose a point $z_i$ in $D_i$'s are the connected components of the complement of the curves:

$$\Sigma_g - \alpha - \beta = \Sigma_g - \alpha_1 - \ldots - \alpha_g - \beta_1 - \ldots - \beta_g = \bigsqcup_i D_i.$$

Let $L_i$ be the codimension 2 subspace $\{z_i\} \times \text{Sym}^{g-1}(\Sigma_g)$ of $\text{Sym}^g(\Sigma_g)$. We denote the intersection number of $u$ and $L_i$ by $n_{z_i}(u)$. This number only depends on the homotopy type of the disk $u$, which we denote by $\phi$. We will get a formal sum of domains

$$\mathcal{D}(\phi) = \mathcal{D}(u) = \sum_{i=1}^n n_{z_i}(u).D_i.$$

For any two points $x, y \in T_\alpha \cap T_\beta$ with $\epsilon(x, y) = 0$, there is a unique homotopy type $\phi$ of the disks connecting them with $n_x(\phi) = i$ and $n_y(\phi) = j$. These are described as follows. If $\phi, \psi$ denote two different homotopy types of disks between $x$ and $y$, then $\mathcal{D}(\phi) - \mathcal{D}(\psi)$ will be a domain whose boundary is a sum of the curves $\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_g, \beta_1, \beta_2, \ldots, \beta_g$. These are called periodic domains. Note that Ozsváth and Szabó require that a periodic domain should have zero multiplicity at one of the prescribed marked points (cf. [4]), while we allow any arbitrary multiplicities at the marked points $z$ and $w$.

The set of periodic domains is isomorphic to the torsion free part of $H_1(Y, \mathbb{Z})$ plus $\mathbb{Z}$ (where $Y$ is the three manifold determined by the Heegaard diagram). This is $H_1(S^3_0(K), \mathbb{Z}) \oplus \mathbb{Z}$ in the above case. As a result, the set of periodic domains is isomorphic to $\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}$ for this problem. This way, we may assign an element in $H_1(S^3_0(K), \mathbb{Z}) \oplus \mathbb{Z} \cong \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}$ to any pair $\phi, \psi$ of homotopy disks between $x, y$ which will be denoted by $h(\phi, \psi)$.
Denote the generators of the set of periodic domains by $D, D_0$. Here $D_0$ is the disk whose domain is the whole surface $\Sigma$ and $D$ is characterized with the property that $n_z(D) = 0$ and $n_w(D) = 1$.

Associated with each homotopy class $\phi$ of disks connecting $x$ and $y$, which is denoted by $\phi \in \pi_2(x, y)$, we define

$$M(\phi) = \left\{ u : [0, 1] \times \mathbb{R} \to \text{Sym}^g(\Sigma_g) \mid u \in \phi, \ \partial_J u(s, t) = 0 \right\},$$

where $J = \{ J_t \}_{t \in [0, 1]}$ is a generic one parameter family of almost complex structures arising from complex structures on the surface $\Sigma_g$ (cf. [4]). This moduli space will have an expected dimension which we will denote by $\mu(\phi)$ ($\mu(\phi)$ should not be confused with the meridian $\mu$ of the knot $K$).

There is a $\mathbb{R}$-action, as usual, and we may divide the moduli space by this action. Denote the quotient $M(\phi)/\mathbb{R}$ of this moduli space by $\hat{M}(\phi)$. The boundary maps for the infinity theory $CFL^\infty(K)$ are described as follows. Let $CFL^\infty(K, \bar{\mathcal{g}})$ be the part of the complex $CFL^\infty(K)$ generated by the intersection points $x$ such that $\bar{\mathcal{g}}(x) = \bar{\mathcal{g}} \in \frac{PD}{2} + \text{Spin}^c(S^3_0(K))$. Define the boundary map $\partial^\infty$ for a generator $[x, i, j], x \in \mathbb{T}_\alpha \cap \mathbb{T}_\beta$ with $\mathcal{g}(x) = \bar{\mathcal{g}}$, to be the sum

$$\partial^\infty[x, i, j] = \sum_{y \in \mathbb{T}_\alpha \cap \mathbb{T}_\beta} \sum_{\phi \in \pi_2(x, y), \mu(\phi) = 1} n_z(\phi) = 0 \# \left( \hat{M}(\phi) \right) [y, i - n_w(\phi), j - n_z(\phi)].$$

If the diagram is strongly admissible (cf. [4] [5]), then the above sum is always finite.

Let $\partial^-$ be the restriction to the complex $CFL^-(K, \bar{\mathcal{g}})$ and $\partial^+$ to be the induced map on the quotient complex $CFL^+(K, \bar{\mathcal{g}})$. On $CFL(K, \bar{\mathcal{g}})$ we consider the simpler map:

$$\partial[x] = \sum_{y \in \mathbb{T}_\alpha \cap \mathbb{T}_\beta} \sum_{\phi \in \pi_2(x, y), \mu(\phi) = 1} n_z(\phi) = n_w(z) = 0 \# \left( \hat{M}(\phi) \right) [y].$$

Here there is no need for an admissible Heegaard diagram, since there will be finitely many terms involved in the above sum.

These maps are all differentials which compose with themselves to give zero (the proof is identical with those used by Ozsváth and Szabó). As a result we will get the homology groups

$$HFL^\infty(K, \bar{\mathcal{g}}), \ HFL^+(K, \bar{\mathcal{g}}), \ \text{and} \ HFL(K, \bar{\mathcal{g}}).$$
Here \( \mathfrak{s} \) is taken to be in
\[
\frac{1}{2}\text{PD}[\mu] + \text{Spin}^c(S^3_0(K)) \simeq \frac{1}{2} + \mathbb{Z}.
\]
We should prove that these homology groups are independent of the choice of the Heegaard diagram and the almost complex structure and that they only depend on the knot \( K \) and the Spin\(^c\)-structure \( \mathfrak{s} \) chosen from \( \frac{1}{2}\text{PD}[\mu] + \text{Spin}^c(S^3_0(K)) \). The independence from the almost complex structure is proved exactly in the same way that the knot Heegaard Floer homology is proved to be independent of this choice.

**Theorem 2.1** Let \( K \) be an oriented knot in \( S^3 \) and fix the Spin\(^c\)-structure \( \mathfrak{s} \in \frac{1}{2}\text{PD}[\mu] + \text{Spin}^c(S^3_0(K)) \). Then the homology groups \( HFL^\infty(K, \mathfrak{s}) \), \( HFL^\pm(K, \mathfrak{s}) \), and \( \widehat{HFL}(K, \mathfrak{s}) \) will be topological invariants of the oriented knot \( K \) and the Spin\(^c\)-structure \( \mathfrak{s} \); i.e. They are independent of the choice of the marked Heegaard diagram
\[
(\Sigma_g; \alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_g; \hat{\beta}_1, \beta_2, \ldots, \beta_g; v)
\]
used in the definition.

**Proof** The proof is almost identical with the proof in the case of Heegaard Floer homology. We will just sketch the steps of this proof. We remind the reader of the following proposition (prop. 3.5.) of [2]:

**Proposition 2.2** If two Heegaard diagrams
\[
(\Sigma; \alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_g; \hat{\beta}_1, \beta_2, \ldots, \beta_g), (\Sigma; \alpha'_1, \ldots, \alpha'_g; \hat{\beta'}_1, \beta'_2, \ldots, \beta'_g),
\]
represent the same manifold obtained by zero surgery on the knot \( K \) in \( S^3 \), then we can pass from one to the other by a sequence of the following moves and their inverses:

1. Handle slide and isotopies among \( \alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_g, \beta_2, \ldots, \beta_g \).
2. Isotopies of \( \hat{\beta}_1 \).
3. Handle slides of \( \hat{\beta}_1 \) across some of the \( \beta_2, \ldots, \beta_g \).
4. Stabilization (introducing cancelling pairs \( \alpha_{g+1}, \beta_{g+1} \) and increasing the genus of \( \Sigma \) by one).

As in [2] assume that
\[
D_1 = (\Sigma; \alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_g; \beta_1, \ldots, \beta_g; z, w), \quad D_2 = (\Sigma; \beta_1, \ldots, \beta_g; \gamma_1, \ldots, \gamma_g; z, w)
\]

*Algebraic & Geometric Topology, Volume 5 (2005)*
are a pair of doubly pointed Heegaard diagrams. There will be a map:

\[ F : \text{CFL}^\infty(D_1) \otimes \text{CFL}^\infty(D_2) \longrightarrow \text{CFL}^\infty(\Sigma; \alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_g; \gamma_1, \ldots, \gamma_g; z, w) \]

defined by

\[ F(\partial [x, i, j] \otimes [y, l, k]) = \sum_{z \in \pi_1 \cap \pi_2} \sum_{\phi \in \pi_2(x, y, z)} \#(\hat{M}(\phi)) [z, i] + l - n_z(\phi), j + k - n_w(\phi) ] \]

(2)

Here we use the notation \( \pi_2(x, y, z) \) for the space of homotopy classes of the disks \( u : \Delta \to \text{Sym}^g(\Sigma_g) \) from the unit triangle \( \Delta \) with edges \( e_1, e_2, e_3 \), to the symmetric space, such that \( u(e_1) \subset T_{\alpha}, u(e_2) \subset T_{\beta}, u(e_3) \subset T_{\gamma} \), and the vertices of \( \Delta \) are mapped to the three points \( x, y, z \).

Back to the proof of the theorem, the independence from the isotopies of \( \beta_2, \ldots, \beta_g \), the isotopies of \( \alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_g \) and even for the isotopies of the special curve \( \hat{\beta}_1 \) are easy and identical to the standard case. The same is true for handle slides among \( \beta_2, \ldots, \beta_g \). In fact if \( \beta_2', \ldots, \beta_g' \) are obtained from \( \beta_2, \ldots, \beta_g \) by a handle slide and if \( \hat{\beta}_1' \) is a small perturbation of \( \hat{\beta}_1 \) then in the Heegaard diagram

\( (\Sigma_g; \hat{\beta}_1, \beta_2, \ldots, \beta_g; \hat{\beta}_1', \beta_2', \ldots, \beta_g' ; z, w) \),

\( z, w \) lie in the same connected component of complement of the curves

\( \Sigma - \hat{\beta}_1 - \ldots - \beta_g - \hat{\beta}_1' - \ldots - \beta_g' \).

We may assume that this is a strongly admissible Heegaard diagram for \( \#^g(S^2 \times S^1) \) for the \( \text{Spin}^c \)-structure \( s_0 \) on \( \#^g(S^2 \times S^1) \) with trivial first Chern class. Denote by \( \text{CFL}^\infty(\Sigma, \beta; \beta') \) the complex generated by the generators \( [x, i, j] \), where \( \beta \) represents \( (\hat{\beta}_1, \beta_2, \ldots, \beta_g) \) and \( \beta' \) represents \( (\hat{\beta}_1', \beta_2', \ldots, \beta_g') \). Then

\[ \text{HFL}^0(\Sigma; \beta; \beta'; z, w) \simeq \mathbb{Z}[U] \otimes \mathbb{Z} \Lambda^*H_1(T^g), \]

where \( U \) is the map sending \( [x, i, j] \) to \( [x, i - 1, j - 1] \). There will be a top generator \( \Theta \in \Lambda^*H_1(T^g) \) in the \( \text{Spin}^c \) class with trivial associated first Chern class. We may use

\[ [x, i, j] \mapsto F([x, i, j] \otimes \Theta) \]

to define the map associated with a handle slide determined by the pair \( (\beta, \beta') \). This induces a map in the level of homology which we may argue – as is typical in the previous work of Ozsváth and Szabó (see [4]) – that in fact induces an
isomorphism. The induced map on the subcomplex $CFL^{-}(K)$, and also on the complexes $\widehat{CFL}^{+}(K)$ and $\widehat{CFL}(K)$ will be isomorphisms as well, since the map $F$ respects the filtration of $CFL^\infty(K)$. See [2] for more details. Other handle slides are quite similar. The proof of independence from the handle addition is identical to the standard case.

Remark 2.3 This theory is in fact an extension of the usual Heegaard Floer homology for the meridian of the knot $K \subset S^3$, considered as an image of $S^1$ in $S^3_0(K)$. The meridian $\mu$ is not null-homologous in $S^3_0(K)$ which makes it not satisfy the requirements of the construction of [2]. However, the only difference that is forced to us, is that the maps $s_z$ and $s_w$ will not assign the same Spin$^c$ structure to the generators of the complex. As we have seen this is not a serious problem at all. The independence of the homology groups from the choice of a Heegaard diagram may be proved yet, as noted above.

3 Basic properties

In this section we start developing some properties of these longitude Floer homology groups. Let $K$ be a knot in $S^3$ and

$$(\Sigma, \alpha_1, ..., \alpha_g, \hat{\beta}_1, \beta_2, ..., \beta_g; z, w)$$

be a Heegaard diagram for $K$; where $z$ and $w$ are on the two sides of the longitude $\hat{\beta}_1$. We may assume that the meridian $m$ of the knot is a curve on $\Sigma$ which cuts $l = \hat{\beta}_1$ and one of the $\alpha$ curves, say $\alpha_1$, exactly once, and is disjoint from all other curves $\alpha_i$ and $\beta_i, i \geq 2$. Denote the unique intersection point between $m$ and $\alpha_1$ by $x$.

![Diagram of Heegaard diagram](image.png)

Figure 2: Let the curve $\beta_1$ wind around the meridian curve $m$ sufficiently many times and put $z$ and $w$ near $l$ in the inner most regions, and on the two sides of $l$. 

Algebraic & Geometric Topology, Volume 5 (2005)
Choose a large number $N$ and change the curve $l$ by winding it $N$ times around $m$ (cf. [4], section 5). This will also be a Heegaard diagram for the same knot $K$ and we may assume that the base points $z$ and $w$ are in the inner-most regions, as is shown in Figure 2.

There will be $2N$ new intersection points $x_1, \ldots, x_N, y_1, \ldots, y_N$ created between the two curves $\alpha_1, l$.

There is a periodic domain for the Heegaard diagram $(\Sigma, \alpha_1, \beta_2, \ldots, \beta_g, z)$ which has multiplicity 1 on the region containing $w$ and multiplicity zero at $z$. The multiplicities of the domains outside the cylinder shown in the figure will be negative numbers less than some fixed number $-N + k$. By choosing $N$ large enough, we may assume that this number is sufficiently negative.

Remember that the generators of the complex $\widehat{CFK}(K)$, when computed using the standard Heegaard diagram associated with $K$ (which comes from a knot projection), are in one-to-one correspondence with combinatorial objects called the Kauffman states (see [2, 3] for more details). We will abuse the language and sometimes use the word Kauffman state to refer to the generators of the chain complexes.

The Kauffman states of the above Heegaard diagram are of two types:

1. Those of the form $\{x_i, \bullet\}$ or $\{y_i, \bullet\}$, which are in correspondence with the Kauffman state $\{x, \bullet\}$ of the Heegaard diagram

$$(\Sigma, \alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_g; m, \beta_2, \ldots, \beta_g; z)$$

for the sphere $S^3$.

2. Those which are not of this form; We will call them bad Kauffman states.

There is a Spin$^c$ structure of $S^3_0(K)$ assigned to each Kauffman state using the base point $z$. Any two Kauffman states of the form $x = \{x_i, \bullet\}$ and $y = \{y_i, \bullet\}$ are in the same Spin$^c$-class $\bar{g}(x) = \bar{g}(y)$. There is a difference of $\ell.\Delta$ between $\bar{g}(\{x_i, \bullet\})$ and $\bar{g}(\{x_i+\ell, \bullet\})$, where $\Delta$ is the generator of the second homology group of $S^3_0(K)$.

We may choose the fixed number $k$ so that the Spin$^c$ difference between a bad Kauffman state and a Kauffman state of the form $\{x_i, \bullet\}$ is at least $(N - i - k)\Delta$.

Let $D$ be the periodic domain considered above, and let $D_0$ denote the periodic domain represented by the surface $\Sigma$. The space of all periodic domains is generated by $D$ and $D_0$. 

*Algebraic & Geometric Topology, Volume 5 (2005)*
Figure 3: There is a domain connecting \( \{ x_i, \bullet \} \) and \( \{ y_i, \bullet \} \) with Maslov index 1 and coefficients \( i-1, i \) at \( z, w \) respectively. The domain for \( \{ x_3, \bullet \} \) and \( \{ y_3, \bullet \} \) is illustrated.

There is a disk between \( \{ x_i, \bullet \} \) and \( \{ y_i, \bullet \} \) with Maslov index 1 and coefficients \( i-1 \) and \( i \) at \( w \) and \( z \) respectively. This domain is illustrated for \( \{ x_3, \bullet \} \) and \( \{ y_3, \bullet \} \) in Figure 3. Let us denote this domain by \( D_i \). Then

\[
\tilde{D}_i = D_i - D - (i-1)D_0
\]

will be the unique connecting domain between \( \{ x_i, \bullet \} \) and \( \{ y_i, \bullet \} \) with zero coefficients on \( z \) and \( w \). Note that the Maslov index of the domain \( D_0 \) is equal to 2. As a result,

\[
\mu(\tilde{D}_i) = 1 - 2(i-1) - \mu(D). \tag{3}
\]

\( D \) represents the generator of the second homology of \( Y = S^3_0(K) \). Namely, we may think of the Heegaard diagram for \( Y \) as given by a Morse function \( h \), and assume that

\[
\partial D = \sum_{i=1}^{g} n_i \alpha_i + \sum_{i=1}^{g} m_i \beta_i.
\]

The points that flow to \( \alpha_i \) form a disk \( P_i \) that caps \( \alpha_i \). Similarly, the points that lie on the flow coming out of \( \beta_i \) form another disk \( Q_i \) that caps the curve \( \beta_i \). Then with an appropriate orientation on \( P_i \) and \( Q_i \), so that \( \partial P_i = -\alpha_i \) and \( \partial Q_i = -\beta_i \), the domain

\[
D + \sum_{i=1}^{g} n_i.P_i + \sum_{i=1}^{g} m_i.Q_i
\]

will represent a homology class \( [F] \) in the three-manifold \( Y = S^3_0(K) \) which in fact generates its second homology (and so is equal to \( \Delta \)).

The Maslov index of this homology class is equal to

\[
\chi(D) = \langle c_1(s_i), [F] \rangle. \tag{4}
\]
where $\chi(D)$ is the Euler measure of $D$, and $s_i$ is the Spin$^c$ structure,

$$s_i = s_z(\{x_i, \bullet\}) = s_z(\{y_i, \bullet\}) \in \mathbb{Z} = \text{Spin}^c(S^3_0(K)).$$

Again, this last identification is done so that the Spin$^c$ class with trivial first Chern class is identified with $0 \in \mathbb{Z}$.

As a result, $\mu(\tilde{D}_i) = 1 - 2(i - 1) - \langle c_1(s_i), [F] \rangle$. This domain has very positive coefficients in the domains of the surface $\Sigma$, which are not on the cylinder shown in the figure, if the index $i$ is not very big. The Maslov index is 1 exactly when $-2(i - 1) = \langle c_1(s_i), [F] \rangle$.

Note that $c_1(s_i) = -2(i - 1)PD[F] + c_1(s_1)$, which implies that

$$\mu(\tilde{D}_i) = 1 - \langle c_1(s_z(\{x_1, \bullet\})), [F] \rangle.$$ 

In fact

$$s_z(\{x_1\} \cup r) = s(\{x\} \cup r),$$

where the right hand side is the Spin$^c$ structure over $S^3_0(K)$ assigned to the Kauffman state $\{x\} \cup r$ in the Ozsváth-Szabó Floer theory.

Suppose that the Ozsváth-Szabó Floer homology $\widehat{HF}(K)$ is non-zero in the Spin$^c$ structure $s$, and that $s$ is the highest Spin$^c$ structure with this property. By the result of Ozsváth and Szabó in [8], this is the same as assuming that $s$ is the genus of the knot $K$. Let $\{x\} \cup r_1, ..., \{x\} \cup r_k$ be the Kauffman states of $K$ in the Spin$^c$ class $s$; and that $\{x\} \cup \eta_1, ..., \{x\} \cup \eta_l$ are the Kauffman states in the higher Spin$^c$ classes, say $s(\{x\} \cup \eta_j) = s + i_j - 1$. Here the integer $s$ represents a Spin$^c$ structure in Spin$^c(S^3_0(K))$ via the isomorphism Spin$^c(S^3_0(K)) \simeq \mathbb{Z}$.

The disk between $\{x\} \cup \eta_j$ and $\{x\} \cup \eta_i$, if they are in the same Spin$^c$ class, is the same as the disk between $\{x_r\} \cup \eta_j$ and $\{x_r\} \cup \eta_i$.

Look at the Spin$^c$ structure $t$ assigned by the map $s_z$ to $\{x_1\} \cup r_i$ and let $t = t - \frac{1}{2}$. The Kauffman states in this Spin$^c$ structure are exactly the following:

$$\{x_1\} \cup r_i, \{y_1\} \cup r_i, \quad i = 1, ..., k,$$

$$\{x_i\} \cup \eta_j, \{y_i\} \cup \eta_j, \quad j = 1, ..., l.$$ 

First consider the disks supported on the part of the surface outside the cylinder. The Kauffman states of the second type cancel each other since the disks between them are in fact identical to the disks in the higher Spin$^c$ structures of $\widehat{HF}(K)$, which give trivial groups. This may be thought of as puncturing the domains on the cylinder and doing the cancellations via computing the homology of the resulting Heegaard diagram.
Among the Kauffman states of the form \( \{x_1\} \cup \tau_i \) the cancellations are also identical to the cancellations of the Ozsváth-Szabó hat theory. In fact, the main possible problem is the possibility of a set of boundary maps of the form:
\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
\{x_{ij}\} \cup \eta_j & \pi & \{x_1\} \cup \tau_i \\
\downarrow & \downarrow \\
\{x_1\} \cup \tau_i' & \pi & \{x_{im}\} \cup \eta_m,
\end{array}
\]
where \( \pi \) is coming from a disk supported away from the cylinder as above, imposing a cancellation of \( \{x_{ij}\} \cup \eta_j \) against \( \{x_{im}\} \cup \eta_m \). This cannot happen, since the map to \( \{x_1\} \cup \tau_i \) or the map from \( \{x_1\} \cup \tau_i \) has very negative coefficients in some domains in the cylinder.

Similarly, the cancellations among \( \{y_1\} \cup \tau_j \)'s are identical to those in the hat theory.

To understand \( \widehat{HFL}(K, \mathcal{L}) \), we should study the boundary maps between \( \{x_1\} \cup \tau_i \) and \( \{y_1\} \cup \tau_j \). Note that the domain of any disk from \( \{x_1\} \cup \tau_i \) to \( \{y_1\} \cup \tau_j \) has negative coefficients in the cylinder. Thus there is no boundary map in this direction.

Potentially there can be a boundary map from \( \{y_1\} \cup \tau_j \) to \( \{x_1\} \cup \tau_i \). Let \( D' \) denote the domain of the disk from \( \{x\} \cup \tau_j \) to \( \{x\} \cup \tau_i \) which is supported outside the cylinder. Then the domain of the disk from \( \{y_1\} \cup \tau_j \) to \( \{x_1\} \cup \tau_i \) will be equal to \( D' + \tilde{D}_1 \), and the Maslov index is
\[
\mu(D') + \mu(\tilde{D}_1) = \mu(\tau_j) - \mu(\tau_i) + \mu(\tilde{D}_1)
\]
\[
= \mu(\tau_j) - \mu(\tau_i) + 1 - \langle c_1(s), [F] \rangle.
\]

(6)

Since \( s \) is the highest nontrivial Spin\(^c\) structure for which \( \widehat{HF}(K, s) \) is nonzero, \( \langle c_1(s), [F] \rangle \) is at least 2 (unless \( K \) is the trivial knot). To have a disk from \( \{y_1\} \cup \tau_j \) to \( \{x_1\} \cup \tau_i \) we need to have \( \mu(\tau_j) - \mu(\tau_i) \geq 2 \). If \( \tau_1 \) is the Kauffman state with highest Maslov grading among \( \tau_j \)'s which survives the cancellations in the standard hat theory, then this condition may not be satisfied. Thus \( \{y_1\} \cup \tau_1 \) will not be cancelled at the level of homology. The result is the following theorem:

**Theorem 3.1** Suppose that \( K \) is a nontrivial knot in \( S^3 \). Then the longitude Floer homology \( \widehat{HFL}(K) \) is nontrivial.

The Spin\(^c\) structure determined by \( s_x(\{x_1\} \cup \tau_j) \) may be described as \( s = s_x(\{x\} \cup \tau_j) \). For the Spin\(^c\) structures \( t > s \) the above argument shows that in fact the longitude Floer homology is trivial. Thus the element of
\[
\frac{1}{2} \text{PD}[\mu] + \text{Spin}^c(S^3_0(K)) \simeq \frac{1}{2} + \mathbb{Z}
\]
associated with \( \{x_1\} \cup x_j \) via the map \( s \) is \( s(\{x\} \cup x_j) = \frac{1}{2} \).

We may do the winding in the other direction. This time a similar argument shows that there is a minimum Spin\(^c\) structure described as \( s' = s(\{x\} \cup x'_j) + \frac{1}{2} \) such that for \( \frac{1}{2} < s' \) the longitude Floer homology is trivial and it is nontrivial for \( s' \). Here \( x_j \)'s are the Kauffman states in the usual Heegaard diagram of \( K \) which produce the lowest nontrivial group \( \widehat{HFK}(K, s' - \frac{1}{2}) \).

Possibility of winding in the two different directions and the symmetry of \( \widehat{HFK}(K) \) implies the existence of a symmetry in the longitude Floer homology. In fact we may prove the following theorem:

**Theorem 3.2** Suppose that \( g \) is the genus of a nontrivial knot \( K \) is \( S^3 \). Then

\[
\widehat{HFL}(K, g - \frac{1}{2}) \simeq \widehat{HFL}(K, -g + \frac{1}{2}) \neq 0,
\]

and for any \( \frac{1}{2} > g \) in \( \frac{1}{2} + \mathbb{Z} \) the groups \( \widehat{HFL}(K, \frac{1}{2}) \) and \( \widehat{HFL}(K, -\frac{1}{2}) \) are both trivial. Furthermore, for any \( \frac{1}{2} \) in \( \frac{1}{2} + \mathbb{Z} \) there is an isomorphism of the relatively graded groups (graded by the Maslov grading),

\[
\widehat{HFL}(K, \frac{1}{2}) \simeq \widehat{HFL}(K, -\frac{1}{2}).
\]

By a result of Ozsváth and Szabó (6), we know that for a fibered knot \( K \) of genus \( g > 0 \), there exists a Heegaard diagram with a single generator in highest Spin\(^c\) structure which is \( s = g \). Furthermore for the Spin\(^c\) structures \( s > g \), there is no other generator of this Heegaard diagram. Using this Heegaard diagram in the above argument we obtain a Heegaard diagram for the longitude Floer homology with two generators in the Spin\(^c\)-structure \( s = g - \frac{1}{2} \) and no generators in the Spin\(^c\) structures \( s > g \). Furthermore, the above argument shows that the two generators in this Spin\(^c\)-structure can not cancel each other because of the difference in their Maslov gradings. As a result we obtain the following:

**Proposition 3.3** If \( K \) is a fibered knot of genus \( g \) then \( \widehat{HFL}(K, \pm(g - \frac{1}{2})) \) is equal to \( \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z} \).

**4 Example:** \( T(2, 2n + 1) \)

We continue by an explicit computation of the longitude Floer homology for the \( (2, 2n + 1) \) torus knots.
We remind the reader that associated with any planar diagram for a knot $K$, and a marked point on it, is a Heegaard diagram for the knot $K$ as discussed in \cite{3}. The generators of the complex (i.e. Heegaard Floer complex defined by Ozsváth-Szabó \cite{2} and Rasmussen \cite{10}) associated with this Heegaard diagram may be described as follows. If $A_1, A_2, \ldots, A_m$ are the regions in the complement of the the knot in plane which are not neighbors of the marked point, then any generator corresponds with an $m$-tuple of points such that in each region $A_i$ exactly one marked point is chosen. Each marked point is located near a self intersection in the plane projection of the knot (obtained from the knot diagram). Furthermore, for any such $m$-tuple, it is required that from the four quadrants in each self intersection, exactly in one of them a marked point is chosen. These sets of marked points are called the Kauffman states for the planar knot diagram. If the unbounded region is a neighbor of the marked point on the diagram (which is the case in what follows), the meridian curve will intersect a unique $\alpha$-curve in a single point, and any generator will contain this intersection point.

Consider a standard plane diagram of the $(2,2n+1)$ torus knot shown in Figure 4. Let the bold points denote the marked points representing a Kauffman state. Other than the outside region, there are two large bounded regions on the right side and the left side of the twists, denoted by $D_R$ and $D_L$ respectively, and $2n$ small regions, which we call $D_1, \ldots, D_{2n}$ from top to bottom. There is a marked point on the knot which is put in the common boundary of $D_L$ and the unbounded region.

Let $z_i$ be the Kauffman state containing a marked point in $D_R$ at the $i$-th

\begin{figure}[h]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=0.3\textwidth]{kauffman_state}
\caption{The Kauffman state $z_i$ of the torus knot is shown. Here the torus knot is the $(2,5)$-knot and the Kauffman state is $z_3$.}
\end{figure}
Intersection. There is a unique Kauffman state described by this property. Moreover, the states $\mathfrak{z}_1, \ldots, \mathfrak{z}_{2n+1}$ will be all of the Kauffman states of (generators of the Heegaard Floer complex for) the $(2, 2n + 1)$ torus knot. As it was noted earlier the Kauffman states are in one-to-one correspondence with the generators. So each $\mathfrak{z}_i$ may be thought of as a set of $2n + 1$ intersection points in the Heegaard diagram which, together with the unique intersection point on the meridian, give a generator for the Heegaard Floer complex. These two alternative ways of thinking about the Kauffman states $\mathfrak{z}_i$ are used in the following.

The Spin$^c$ grading of the Kauffman states is described via $s(\mathfrak{z}_i) = i - n - 1$, and the (relative) Maslov grading by $\mu(\mathfrak{z}_i) = i - 1$, all in the sense of [2]. Note that $s(\mathfrak{z}_i) \in \mathbb{Z} = \text{Spin}^c(S^3(K))$ is the well-defined Spin$^c$ structure used in the Heegaard Floer homology of Ozsváth-Szabó (2) and Rasmussen (10).

After winding $l$ along $m$ sufficiently many times, the proof of theorem 3.2 (cf.
section 5 of [4]) may be copied to prove the following:

**Lemma 4.1** For any Spin$^c$ class

\[ s \in \frac{1}{2} + \mathbb{Z} = \frac{1}{2} \text{PD}[\mu] + \text{Spin}^c(S^3_0(K)), \]

with the property \( |s| < n = \text{genus}(T(2, 2n + 1)) \), all the generators in the class \( s \) are of the form:

\[ \tau_{ij} = \{x_i\} \cup \zeta_j, \quad \eta_{ij} = \{y_i\} \cup \zeta_j, \]

where \( \zeta_j \)s are considered as sets of \( 2n + 1 \) intersection points in the Heegaard diagram, and \( x_1, x_2, \ldots, y_1, y_2, \ldots \) are the intersection points on \( l \) which result from winding it around the meridian \( \mu \).

These generators will be called Kauffman states for longitude Floer homology or just Kauffman states if it is clear from the context that longitude Floer complex is considered.

It is easy to check that the following assignments, satisfy all the relative Maslov grading computations and the equations for Spin$^c$ differences:

\[ -\mu(\eta_{ij}) = \mu(\tau_{ij}) = j - n - \frac{3}{2}, \]

\[ s(\tau_{ij}) = s(\eta_{ij}) = j - i - n - \frac{1}{2}. \]

(7)

Here we are assigning rational values as the Maslov grading, which is an abuse of notation. However, note that here we are only interested in relative grading, and the relative Maslov gradings are still by integers.

The Kauffman states which lie in the Spin$^c$ structure \( s = s - \frac{1}{2} \in \frac{1}{2} + \mathbb{Z} \) are those \( \tau_{ij} \) and \( \eta_{ij} \) for which \( j - i = n + s \).

Remember that there cannot be any boundary map going from \( \tau_{ij} \) to \( \eta_{ij} \). Furthermore, if there exists a map from \( \tau_{ij} \) to \( \tau_{l+k,j-k} \) regardless of what \( N \) is, then there is a map from \( \tau_{l,j} \) to \( \tau_{l+k,j-k} \) regardless of what \( N \) is, for all other \( l \). Conversely, if there is no map from \( \tau_{ij} \) to \( \tau_{l+k,j-k} \) regardless of what \( N \) is, then there is no map from \( \tau_{l,j} \) to \( \tau_{l+k,j-k} \). This is because of the isomorphism between the domains of the disks between the corresponding generators.

Since we already know that \( \hat{CFL}(K) \) is symmetric with respect to the Spin$^c$ structure

\[ s \in \frac{1}{2} + \mathbb{Z} \simeq \frac{1}{2} \text{PD}[\mu] + \text{Spin}^c(S^3_0(K)), \]

and since the genus of \( K = T(2, 2n+1) \) is \( n \), it is enough to compute \( \hat{CFL}(K, s) \) for the Spin$^c$ structures \( 0 < s < n \). Here \( \mu \) represents the meridian of the knot \( K \).
If $0 < \underline{a} < n$, then because of the above Maslov grading of the generators, there cannot be any boundary maps from any of $\eta_{ij}$'s to any of $x_{kl}$'s in Spin$^c$ class $\underline{a}$. Thus, the only boundary maps that should be studied are the boundary maps within $x_{ij}$'s, as well as the boundary maps within $\eta_{kl}$'s.

![Diagram showing boundary maps](image)

**Figure 6:** The domain between $x_{ij}$ and $x_{(i-1)(j-1)}$ (b) is a modification of the domain connecting the two generators $z_j$ and $z_{j-1}$ (a) in the Heegaard diagram obtained from the alternating projection of $K$. If there are $k$ small circles in the domain on the left, we will denote it by $\mathcal{D}_k$. Note that the bold curves are in $\alpha$ while the regular curves are in $\beta$.

If $x_{kl}$ appears in the boundary of $x_{ij}$, then they are in the same Spin$^c$ class and the Maslov grading of the first generator is one less than the Maslov grading of the second generator. This implies that $k = i - 1$ and $j = l - 1$. The domain between $x_{ij}$ and $x_{(i-1)(j-1)}$ is a modification of the domain connecting the two generators $z_j$ and $z_{j-1}$ in the Heegaard diagram obtained from the alternating projection of $K$ shown in **Figure 4**. If $j = 2l + 1$ for some $l$, then the domain between $z_j$ and $z_{j-1}$ is illustrated in **Figure 6(a)**, while the modified domain connecting $x_{ij}$ and $x_{(i-1)(j-1)}$ will be of the type shown in **Figure 6(b)**. Let us denote this last domain by $\mathcal{D}_k$, where $k$ is the number of circles inside the rectangle.

The moduli spaces $\mathcal{M}(\mathcal{D}_k)$ and $\mathcal{M}(\mathcal{D}_{k-1})$ are in fact cobordant, since $\mathcal{D}_k$ is obtained from $\mathcal{D}_{k-1}$ via the operation of adding a handle. This can be proved using the usual argument of Ozsváth and Szabó for the invariance of the Floer homology when we add a one handle to the surface, and a pair of cancelling curves to $\alpha$ and $\beta$ (see [4]).

To show that the total contribution of the domain $\mathcal{D}_k$ to the boundary map is $\pm 1$, we only have to show this for $\mathcal{D} = \mathcal{D}_0$. 

*Algebraic & Geometric Topology, Volume 5 (2005)*
Lemma 4.2 Let $\mathcal{D}$ be as above. Then the algebraic sum of the points in the moduli space

$$\widehat{\mathcal{M}}(\mathcal{D}) = \frac{\mathcal{M}(\mathcal{D})}{\mathbb{R}}$$

is $\pm 1$.

Proof Consider the embedding of the domain $\mathcal{D}$ in a genus three Heegaard diagram which is shown in Figure 7. Let the bold and the regular curves denote the $\alpha$ and the $\beta$ curves respectively. Choose $\alpha_i$’s and $\beta_j$’s so that the $\alpha$ curve which spins around the center is $\alpha_1$ and the $\beta$ curve cutting it several times is $\beta_1$.

Consider the small dotted circle $\theta_1$ in Figure 7 and complete it into a set of three disjoint linearly independent simple closed curves by adding Hamiltonian isotopes of the curves $\beta_2$ and $\beta_3$, which we will call $\theta_2$ and $\theta_3$ respectively. We choose them so that $\theta_i$ intersects $\beta_i$ in a pair of transverse cancelling intersection points, for $i = 2, 3$. Call the resulting sets of curves $\alpha, \beta$ and $\theta$.

The triple Heegaard diagram

$$H = \{ \Sigma_3, \alpha, \beta, u, v, w \},$$

with $u, v$ and $w$ being the marked points of Figure 7, induces a chain map

$$\mathcal{F} : \widehat{CF}(\alpha, \beta) \otimes \widehat{CF}(\beta) \rightarrow \widehat{CF}(\alpha, \beta).$$

The map $\mathcal{F}$ is defined through a count of holomorphic triangles which miss the marked points $u, v$ and $w$ (see [4, 5] for more details on the construction of $\mathcal{F}$). The complex $\widehat{CF}(\theta, \beta)$ gives the Floer homology associated with the three-manifold $(S^1 \times S^2) \# (S^1 \times S^2)$. There is a top generator of this homology group which we may denote by $\Theta$. The complex $\widehat{CF}(\alpha, \theta)$ has precisely two generators $x$ and $y$, with a single boundary map going from $x$ to $y$. The image $\mathcal{F}(x \times \Theta)$ will have several terms, probably in different Spin$^c$ classes.

Denote the intersection points of $\alpha_1$ and $\beta_1$ in the spiral by $x_1, x_2, \ldots$, so that $x_1$ is the one that is closest to the center of the spiral. Each $x_i$ may be completed to a generator of $\widehat{CF}(\alpha, \beta)$ precisely in two ways, which will be denoted by $\{x_i\} \cup z$ and $\{x_i\} \cup w$. We may choose them so that $\{x_1\} \cup z$ and $\{x_2\} \cup w$ are in the same Spin$^c$ class. Under this assumption the domain connecting them is the domain $\mathcal{D}$ introduced above. Denote this same Spin$^c$ class by $s$, and denote the part of the image of $\mathcal{F}$ in the Spin$^c$ class $s$ by $\mathcal{F}_s$. Clearly $\mathcal{F}_s$ is also a chain map.
Figure 7: The domain $D$ may be embedded in a genus three Heegaard diagram. The curve winding around the center is $\alpha_1$, which is completed to $\alpha = \{\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3\}$. The curve $\beta_1 \in \beta = \{\beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3\}$ cuts $\alpha_1$ several times. The dotted small circle is $\theta_1$ which is completed to a triple $\theta$ by adding the Hamiltonian isotopes $\theta_2$ and $\theta_3$ of $\beta_2$ and $\beta_3$. The intersection points between $\beta_1$ and $\alpha_1$ are labelled $x_1, x_2, \ldots$ with $x_1$ the intersection point on the right hand side of $\theta_1$ in the picture.

It is not hard to check, using the energy filtration of [5], that we would have

$$F_s(x \otimes \Theta) = \pm \{x_1\} \cup z + \text{lower energy terms}, \text{ and}$$

$$F_s(y \otimes \Theta) = \pm \{x_2\} \cup w + \text{lower energy terms}.$$  

It is then an algebraic fact that $\{x_2\} \cup w$ appears in the boundary of $\{x_1\} \cup z$ with coefficient $\pm 1$, which is on its own a result of $\partial (x \otimes \Theta) = y \otimes \Theta$. This completes the proof of the lemma.

This lemma implies that $\partial(\eta(i)(2l+1)) = \pm \eta(i-1)(2l)$. Since $\partial \circ \partial = 0$, we may conclude that $\partial(\eta(i)(2l)) = 0$ for all $i, l$, unless $i$ is too large (i.e. irrelevant).

Similarly we may deduce that

$$\partial(\eta(i)(2l+1)) = \eta(i-1)(2l-1), \text{ and}$$

$$\partial(\eta(i)(2l+1)) = 0.$$

We may summarize all these information as the following theorem.

**Theorem 4.3**  Let $K = T(2, 2n+1)$ denotes the $(2, 2n+1)$ torus knot in $S^3$. Then for any Spin$^c$ structure

$$x \in \frac{1}{2} + \mathbb{Z} \simeq \frac{1}{2}PD[\mu] + \text{Spin}^c(S^3_0(K)),$$

**Algebraic & Geometric Topology, Volume 5 (2005)**
the longitude Floer homology of $K$ is trivial if $|s| > n$. Otherwise it is given by
\[ \hat{HF}(K, s) = \mathbb{Z}_{(-n + \frac{1}{2})} \oplus \mathbb{Z}_{(\epsilon(s))}, \]
where $\epsilon(s) = (-1)^{n - \frac{1}{2} - s}$, and $\mathbb{Z}_{(k)}$ denotes a copy of $\mathbb{Z}$ in (relative) Maslov grading $k$.

**Proof** The proof for $s > 0$ is just an algebraic result of the cancellations induced by the map $\partial$ above. For $s < 0$, it is the result of the symmetry on $\hat{HF}(K)$.

### 5 A Heegaard diagram for Whitehead double

In this section, we will construct an appropriate Heegaard diagram for $K_L$ out of a Heegaard diagram for $K$.

Suppose that $(\Sigma; \delta; \{m = \gamma_1\} \cup \gamma_0)$ is a Heegaard diagram for $K$ together with an extra curve $l$ (As usual, $\delta = \{\delta_1, \ldots, \delta_g\}$ and $\gamma_0 = \{\gamma_2, \ldots, \gamma_g\}$). Here $l$ is the curve with the property that it intersects the meridian $m = \gamma_1$ exactly once but does not cut any other $\gamma$ curve. The curve $l$ represents the longitude of the knot $K$ in such a way that

\[(\Sigma; \delta; \{l\} \cup \gamma_0)\]

is a Heegaard diagram for $S^3_0(K)$. Define

\[\gamma = \{l\} \cup \gamma_0.\]

We may bring this Heegaard diagram into the form shown in Figure 8 where the surface $\Sigma$ is a connected sum $\Sigma = T \# S$ of the torus $T = S^1 \times S^1$ and $S$, a surface of genus $g - 1$. We assume that $m$ and $l$ are the standard generators of the homology of $T$, and that all other $\gamma$ curves are on $S$ and are in the standard configuration such that by attaching a disk to these $\gamma$ curves we get the handlebody formed by the inside of $S$. The diagram $(\Sigma, \delta; \gamma_0)$ gives a Heegaard diagram for the complement of the knot $K$ in $S^3$ and the neighborhood of $K$ may be identified with the interior of $T$, since $l$ has zero linking number with the core of the torus $T = S^1 \times S^1$.

If we embed the knot $L$ inside the torus $T$ and find a Heegaard diagram for its complement, this Heegaard diagram together with the Heegaard diagram for $K$ will give a diagram for the double of the knot in $S^3$.
Figure 8: (a) A Heegaard diagram associated with $K$. Here $m$ denotes the meridian, and $l$ is the longitude of the knot. The curve $\delta_1$ is the unique $\delta$ curve cutting $m$. (b) A Heegaard diagram for $L$ in the solid torus. The thicker curves denote the $\alpha$ curves, and the thinner ones are $\beta$’s. The curve $n$ denotes the meridian of $L$. 
More precisely, consider the Heegaard diagram shown in Figure 8 (b) for the unknot sitting inside the solid torus. Here the thick curves denote the $\alpha$ circles, while the thin ones are $\beta$'s. There is an extra curve $\lambda$ shown in the picture, which we save for the later purposes. There is a special $\alpha$-curve denoted by $\gamma$ in the figure, which represents the generator of the first homology group $H_1(D^2 \times S^1, \mathbb{Z})$ of the solid torus.

If we attach a disk to each $\alpha$ curve, except for $\gamma$, in this Heegaard diagram and a disk to each of the $\beta$ circles other than the meridian $n$, we will get the complement of the knot $L$ inside a solid torus $S^1 \times D^2$.

Put this solid torus inside the torus $T$. Attach the surface of the solid torus and $T$ by a one-handle connecting the intersection of $\gamma_1$ and $l$ on $T$ to the intersection of $\gamma$ and $\lambda$ on the Heegaard diagram for $L$.

The result of this operation may be regarded as a connected sum of the surfaces $\Sigma$ and $C$. Here $(\Sigma, \delta, \{m\} \cup \gamma_0)$ is the above Heegaard diagram for $K$, and $C$ is the surface in the Heegaard diagram of $L$ used above.

Denote by $(n, \beta_1, \ldots, \beta_4)$ the $\beta$ curves on $C$ and by $(\gamma, \alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_4)$ the $\alpha$ curves, as is shown in Figure 8 (b).

In order to find a Heegaard diagram for the complement of the Whitehead double in the sphere $S^3$, we have to fill the space between the solid torus and the torus $T$. Looking at $T \# C$, there are two disks which sit in the empty space between $T$ and the solid torus. Namely, if we cut the union by a horizontal plane, the intersection will look like the left hand side of Figure 9. There is a disk bounded by the connected sum $\gamma \# l$. This disk is dashed in Figure 9.

We may also cut the torus with a vertical plane. If the cut is made in a way that it passes through $m$ and $\lambda$, and cuts the handle connecting the solid torus and the torus $T$, then the cut will look like what is shown on the right hand side of Figure 9. Again, there is a disk which is dashed in the picture, with a boundary which is the connected sum $\lambda \# m = \lambda \# \gamma_1$.

The result of this operation is a Heegaard diagram for the Whitehead double of $K$:

$$(\Sigma \# C; \{n, \beta_1, \ldots, \beta_4\} \cup \delta; \{\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_4\} \cup \{\lambda \# m, \gamma \# l\} \cup \gamma_0; z, w),$$

where $z$ and $w$ are two base points which are put on the two sides of the curve $n$ on $C$. We will use this Heegaard diagram to relate the Ozsváth-Szabó Floer homology of the Whitehead double of $K$ to the longitude Floer homology discussed in the earlier sections.
6 Whitehead double; homology computation

In order to obtain the Ozsváth-Szabó Floer homology groups we should first form the chain complex by identifying the relevant generators of this Heegaard diagram.

There are two types of generators for this Heegaard diagram:

1. The Kauffman states which are in correspondence with a pair of generators of the form \{x, y\}, where x is a generator of
   \[(C; \gamma, \alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_4; n, \beta_1, \ldots, \beta_4)\],
   and y is a generator of \((\Sigma, \delta; \{m\} \cup \gamma_0)\). We call these generators meridian Kauffman states.

2. The Kauffman states which are associated with a pair of generators of the form \{x, y\}, where x is a generator of
   \[(C; \lambda, \alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_4; n, \beta_1, \ldots, \beta_4)\],
and \( y \) is a generator of \((\Sigma, \delta; \{l\} \cup \gamma_0)\). We call these generators the *longitude Kauffman states*.

If \( \{x, y\} \) and \( \{x, y'\} \) are two meridian Kauffman states, the domain between \( y, y' \) on \( \Sigma \) will have coefficient 0 on one side and \( M \) on the other side of the meridian \( m \). We may complete this domain to the domain of an actual disk connecting \( \{x, y\} \) and \( \{x, y'\} \) by adding the domain on \( C \) with the multiplicities shown in Figure 10.

Therefore, any two meridian Kauffman states \( \{x, y\} \) and \( \{x, y'\} \) are in the same Spin\(^c\) class.

A similar argument using the periodic domain \( D \) of \((\Sigma; \delta; \{l\} \cup \gamma_0)\) and the above periodic domain of \( C \) in Figure 10 shows that any two longitude Kauffman states \( \{x, y\} \) and \( \{x, y'\} \) are also in the same Spin\(^c\) class.

![Figure 10](image)

**Figure 10:** The left and the right picture represent the upper and lower faces of the surface \( C \). The intersection points of the \( \alpha \) and \( \beta \) circles are labelled. There is a set of periodic domains with coefficients 0, \( M, -M \) in different regions, as above, for any given number \( M \). There are two distinguished domains connecting the Kauffman states: (a) The small rectangle with vertices \( g, h, k, l \), (b) the domain whose non-zero coefficients on different domains are denoted by (1).

To understand the Spin\(^c\) grading between meridian and longitude Kauffman states, the next step is to consider the Kauffman states of the two Heegaard diagrams

\[
H_1 = (C; \gamma, \alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_4; n, \beta_1, \ldots, \beta_4), \quad H_2 = (C; \lambda, \alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_4; n, \beta_1, \ldots, \beta_4).
\]

We have named the intersection points of the diagram by letters of the alphabet in Figure 10.
The Kauffman states of $H_1$ will be the following list

$$x_1 = \{n, d, h, p, f\},$$
$$x_2 = \{n, c, g, r, f\},$$
$$x_3 = \{n, g, c, q, e\}.$$

It is easy to see that $x_1$ and $x_2$ are in the same Spin$^c$ class and there is a disk between them, which is disjoint from the shaded area, where the handle is attached to the surface $C$. This disk supports a unique holomorphic representative. The numbers in parenthesis denote the nonzero coefficients of the disk between these two Kauffman states.

The Kauffman state $x_3$ is in a higher Spin$^c$ class. This means that $s(x_1) + 1 = s(x_2) + 1 = s(x_3)$.

The relative Maslov grading of any two Kauffman states (of the meridian or longitude type) $\{x, y\}$ and $\{x, y'\}$ is the same as the relative Maslov index of the states $y$ and $y'$. So the contribution of all the Kauffman states of the form $\{x, y\}$, for a fixed $x$, is equal (up to a sign) to the Euler characteristic of $\widehat{HF}(S^3)$ or the Euler characteristic of $\widehat{HF}(S^3_0(K))$, depending on whether $\{x, y\}$’s are meridian Kauffman states or longitude Kauffman states, respectively. This implies that the total contribution of longitude Kauffman states to the Euler characteristic in different Spin$^c$ structures is zero. For each of $x_i$ we will get a contribution equal to $\pm 1$. The contribution from $x_1$ is cancelled against the contribution from $x_2$, so the only Spin$^c$ structure for which the contribution is nonzero, is $s(x_3)$. The conclusion is that $s(\{x_3, \bullet\}) = s(x_3) = 0$, since the Euler characteristic of $\widehat{HF}(K_L)$ gives the symmetrized Alexander polynomial of $K_L$ (which is trivial). Moreover, as a result of the previous discussion, we have:

$$s(\{x, y\}) = s(x), \quad \text{for all meridian Kauffman states } \{x, y\}.$$

Here the right hand side is a Spin$^c$ class associated with the Heegaard diagram $H_1$. So $s(x_1) + 1 = s(x_2) + 1 = s(x_3) = 0$, and there is no meridian Kauffman state in the Spin$^c$ class $s = 1$.

Now we turn to the Kauffman states of $H_2$. We will show that some of them naturally cancel against each other. Then we will identify the remaining ones, and will compute the Spin$^c$-grading of the corresponding longitude Kauffman states.

There is a small rectangle bounded by the intersection points $h, g, l, k$ on the lower face of the surface. For any pair of Kauffman states for the Whitehead
double which are of the form \( \{g, k, \bullet\} \) and \( \{h, l, \bullet\} \), the domain of the disk between these two states is this rectangle, which supports a unique holomorphic representative. There are six of these pairs. We may cancel them against each other, in the expense that having two Kauffman states with a disk of the following type connecting them, we will not be able to argue that there is no boundary map between the two Kauffman states. The disks considered above are the ones with negative coefficients in the rectangle. Since we will not face this situation in what follows, we simply choose to cancel them against each other. For a more careful explanation of this method we refer the reader to Rasmussen’s paper [9].

Here is a list of the remaining Kauffman states:

\[
\begin{align*}
z_1 &= \{a, q, g, m, c\}, \\
z_2 &= \{a', q, g, m, c\}, \\
z_3 &= \{b, h, m, p, f\}, \\
z_4 &= \{b', h, m, p, f\}.
\end{align*}
\]

One may check by considering the domains that

\[
s(z_1) = s(z_2) + 1 = s(z_3) + 1 = s(z_4) + 2.
\]  

(8)

In order to see what the absolute grading of these states is, move \( \delta_1 \) (the unique \( \delta \) curve that intersects \( m \)) by an isotopy to create a pair of intersection points with \( l \). One of them has the property that together with the intersection of \( l \) and \( m \) and the intersection of \( m \) and \( \delta_1 \), they form the vertices of a small triangle. Call this point \( x_0 \) and let \( y_0 \) be the intersection point of \( m \) and \( \delta_1 \). If \( y = \{y_0, \bullet\} \) is a Kauffman state for (\( \Sigma ; \delta ; \{m\} \cup \gamma_0 \)), then \( \{x_0, \bullet\} \) will be a Kauffman state for

\[
(\Sigma ; \delta ; \{l\} \cup \gamma_0).
\]

There is a domain representing a disk with zero coefficients on \( z \) and \( w \) which connects the two Kauffman states \( z_3 \cup \{y_0, \bullet\} \) and \( x_3 \cup \{x_0, \bullet\} \). So for any longitude Kauffman state of the form \( z_i \cup \{\bullet\} \) we may compute the Spin\(^c\) grading via the formula:

\[
s(z_1 \cup \{\bullet\}) - 1 = s(z_2 \cup \{\bullet\}) = s(z_3 \cup \{\bullet\}) = s(z_4 \cup \{\bullet\}) + 1 = 0.
\]  

(9)

So the only Kauffman states in the Spin\(^c\) structure \( s = 1 \) that remain, are those of the form \( z_1 \cup y \), where \( y \) is some Kauffman state on the Heegaard diagram \( H_2 \) (which is a potential Heegaard diagram for the longitude Floer homology).

Suppose that \( z_1 \cup y \) and \( z_1 \cup y' \) are two Kauffman states in our Heegaard diagram. Since the states do not differ on \( C \), the only possibility for a domain
between the two states is that the coefficients in all of the regions on $C$ are zero except for the regions where a coefficient equal to $\pm M$ is assigned as in Figure 10. In any such domain, there are regions with both $M$ and $-M$ as coefficients. Furthermore, these domains do not use the small rectangle considered before. So the only case where there is potentially a boundary map from $z_1 \cup y$ to $z_1 \cup y'$ is when we have $M = 0$.

In this case the four regions around the connecting handle will get coefficients equal to zero. This means that the disk is completely supported on $\Sigma$. Furthermore if we put two marked points $z'$ and $w'$ on the two sides of $l$ at the intersection of $l$ with $\beta_1$, the above discussion shows that the domains of the disks between these points will have zero coefficients in the regions associated with $z'$ and $w'$.

So, the disks that contribute to the boundary operator are in 1-1 correspondence with the disks between $y$ and $y'$ in the hat theory assigned to the Heegaard diagram

$$(\Sigma, \delta; \{\ell\} \cup \gamma_0; z', w').$$

The above discussion shows that the generators and all the boundary maps in the Ozsváth-Szabó Floer homology of $K_L$ in Spin$^c$ structure $s = 1$ are exactly the same as those appearing in

$$\widehat{CFL}(K) = \bigoplus_{i \in \mathbb{Z} + \frac{1}{2}} \widehat{CFL}(K, i).$$

The Spin$^c$ grading of $\widehat{CFL}(K)$, and that of the homology groups $\widehat{HFL}(K)$ are forgotten when we compute the Ozsváth-Szabó Floer homology of the Whitehead double, and the isomorphism is an isomorphism of groups (relatively) graded by the Maslov index.

We have proved the following theorem:

**Theorem 6.1** Let $K_L$ denote the Whitehead double of a knot $K$ in $S^3$. The Ozsváth-Szabó Floer homology groups $\widehat{HFK}(K_L, \pm 1)$ are isomorphic to the group $\widehat{HFL}(K) = \bigoplus_{i \in \mathbb{Z} + \frac{1}{2}} \widehat{HFL}(K, i)$ as (relatively) $\mathbb{Z}$-graded abelian groups with the (relative) grading on both sides coming from the Maslov grading.

As a corollary of this theorem and the results of the previous section we have:

**Corollary 6.2** Let $K = T(2, 2n + 1)$ denote the $(2, 2n + 1)$ torus knot and let $K_L$ be the Whitehead double of $K$. Then the Ozsváth-Szabó Floer homology
groups \( \widehat{HFK}(K_L, +1) \) in different (relative) Maslov gradings are described as follows:

\[
\begin{align*}
\mu & : \quad n \quad n-2 \quad \ldots \quad -n+2 \quad -n+1 \\
\widehat{HFK} & : \quad \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z} \quad \ldots \quad \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z} \quad \bigoplus_{i=1}^{2n} \mathbb{Z}
\end{align*}
\]

**Remark 6.3** The longitude Floer homology may be defined for a knot in a three-manifold \( Y \), and as such, it enjoys very nice surgery formulas. We postpone a discussion of these subjects to a future paper.

**References**


Mathematics Department, Harvard University
1 Oxford Street, Cambridge, MA 02138, USA

Email: eaman@math.harvard.edu

Received: 15 July 2004

*Algebraic & Geometric Topology, Volume 5 (2005)*