1139-18-586 **Siu-Hung Ng\*** (rng@math.lsu.edu), Department of Mathematics, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803. A new family of braided quasi-Hopf algebras and their representation categories.

The construction of twisted quantum doubles of finite groups G was motivated by holomorphic orbifold in conformal field theory. In this talk, we present a generalized construction of braided quasi-Hopf algebras  $D^{\omega}(G, A)$  from a central subgroup A and a 3-cocycle  $\omega$  of G. The modularity of their representation categories is equivalent to the nondegeneracy of some bicharacter induced on A. We particularly consider some finite groups with a unique involution as examples. This talk is based on some joint works with Geoffrey Mason. (Received February 20, 2018)