

Mock modularity and refinement: from BPS black holes to Vafa-Witten theory

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S.A., B.Pioline arXiv:1808.08479

S.A., J.Manschot, B.Pioline arXiv:1910.03098

S.A. arXiv:2005.03680

arXiv:2006.10074

S.A., S.Nampuri in progress

Zoom-CERN, July 21, 2020

Motivation

The main object of interest:

BPS indices $\Omega(\gamma)$ — (signed) number of BPS states in theories with extended SUSY

- degeneracies of BPS black holes
- spectrum of states in supersymmetric gauge theories
- weights of instanton corrections to the effective action
- Donaldson-Thomas invariants of Calabi-Yau manifolds
- Vafa-Witten invariants of complex surfaces – topologically twisted SYM

It is useful to study *generating functions*

Sometimes they possess non-trivial *modular* properties:

they can be *modular forms*,
mock modular forms,
higher depth mock modular forms...

$$h_{\dots}(\tau) = \sum_{q_0 > 0} \Omega(\gamma) e^{2\pi i q_0 \tau}$$

$$\tau \mapsto \frac{a\tau + b}{c\tau + d} \quad \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$$

$$h\left(\frac{a\tau + b}{c\tau + d}\right) = (c\tau + d)^w h(\tau)$$

Motivation

The goal: understand modular properties of the generating functions of BPS indices $\Omega(\gamma)$

- Can be used to extract the asymptotic behavior of BPS indices to compare with the macroscopic entropy of BPS black holes
- Can be used to find them exactly!
- They encode a non-trivial geometry of the quantum corrected moduli spaces affected by BPS instantons

The plan of the talk

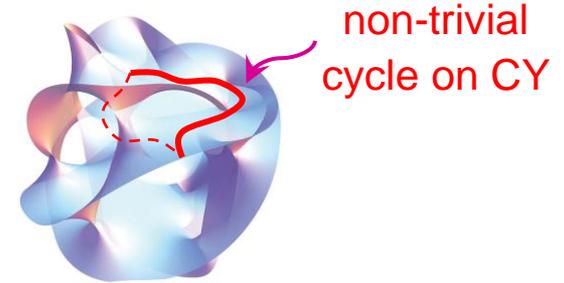
1. D4-D2-D0 black holes in Type IIA/CY and their BPS indices
2. Modularity of the generating functions of (*refined*) BPS indices and their modular completions
3. Applications:
 - a) BPS dyons in N=4 string theory
 - b) Vafa-Witten theory on projective surfaces
 - c) Holomorphic anomaly for BPS partition function
 - d) Quantization of the moduli space
4. Conclusions

D4-D2-D0 black holes in Type IIA/CY

These are $\frac{1}{2}$ BPS black holes in 4d N=2 SUGRA with electro-magnetic charge

$$\gamma = (0, p^a, q_a, q_0) \quad a = 1, \dots, b_2(CY)$$

label 4- and 2-dim cycles wrapped by D4 and D2-branes



BPS index $\Omega(\gamma)$ — black hole degeneracy = generalized Donaldson-Thomas invariant of CY

Natural generating function $h_{p^a, q_a}^{\text{DT}}(\tau) = \sum_{q_0 > 0} \Omega(\gamma) e^{2\pi i q_0 \tau}$

- but:**
- the generating function depends on too many charges
 - DT invariants depend on CY moduli: $\Omega(\gamma; z^a)$ — *wall-crossing* (BPS *bound* states can form or decay)

no nice modular properties expected

MSW invariants

Solution: consider *MSW invariants*
 count states in SCFT constructed
 in Maldacena, Strominger, Witten '97

$$\Omega_\gamma^{\text{MSW}} = \Omega(\gamma, z_\infty^a(\gamma))$$

large volume
 attractor point

$$z_\infty^a(\gamma) = \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow \infty} (-q^a + i\lambda p^a)$$

Properties:

- independent of CY moduli
- invariant under *spectral flow symmetry*



$$\Omega_\gamma^{\text{MSW}} = \Omega_p(\hat{q}_0)$$

$$\hat{q}_0 \equiv q_0 - \frac{1}{2} \kappa^{ab} q_a q_b \quad \text{— invariant charge bounded from above}$$

spectral flow

$$q_a \mapsto q_a - \kappa_{ab} \epsilon^b$$

$$q_0 \mapsto q_0 - \epsilon^a q_a + \frac{1}{2} \kappa_{ab} \epsilon^a \epsilon^b$$

$\kappa_{ab} = \kappa_{abc} p^c$ — quadratic form, given
 by intersection numbers of 4-cycles,
 of *indefinite* signature $(1, b_2 - 1)$

generating function of MSW invariants

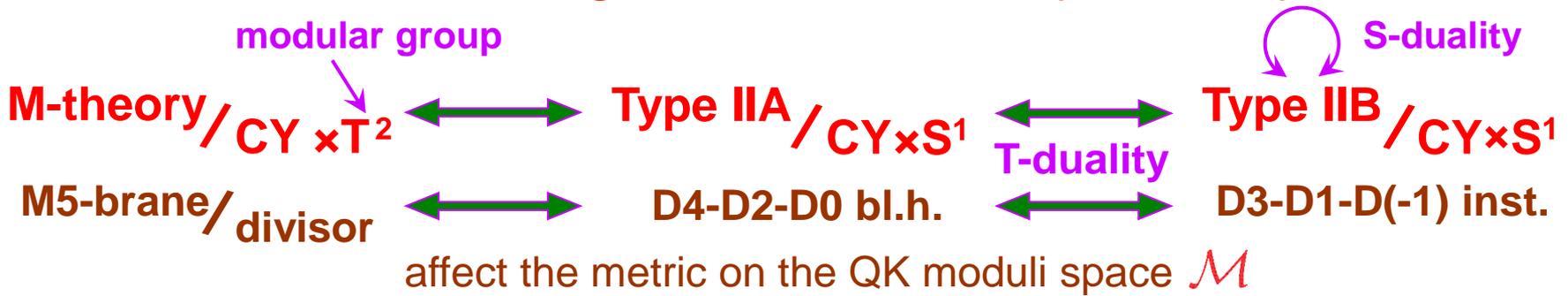
$$h_p(\tau) = \sum_{\hat{q}_0 \leq \hat{q}_0^{\text{max}}} \bar{\Omega}_p(\hat{q}_0) e^{-2\pi i \hat{q}_0 \tau}$$

where

$$\bar{\Omega}(\gamma) := \sum_{d|\gamma} \frac{1}{d^2} \Omega(\gamma/d)$$

rational invariants

The origin of modular symmetry



\mathcal{M} carries an isometric action of $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ preserved by non-pert. corrections

Twistor description of D-instantons
 S.A., Pioline, Saueressig, Vandoren '08
 S.A. '09

A function \mathcal{G} on \mathcal{M} (called "instanton generating potential") constructed from DT-invariants is modular of weight $\left(-\frac{3}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right)$

Restriction on (the generating function of) BPS indices $\Omega(\gamma)$

The functions $h_p(\tau)$ have a modular anomaly, but one can construct an explicit expression for a non-holomorphic modular completion $\widehat{h}_p(\tau, \bar{\tau})$

Refinement

There is a *refined* version of BPS indices $\Omega(\gamma, y) \sim \text{Tr}_{\mathcal{H}_\gamma}(-y)^{2J_3}$
 y – refinement parameter conjugate to the angular momentum

generating function of refined
MSW invariants

$$h_p^{\text{ref}}(\tau, y) = \sum_{\hat{q}_0 \leq \hat{q}_0^{\text{max}}} \frac{\bar{\Omega}_p(\hat{q}_0, y)}{y - y^{-1}} e^{-2\pi i \hat{q}_0 \tau}$$

single order
pole at $y \rightarrow 1$

The claim: the unrefined construction of the modular completion $\hat{h}_p(\tau, \bar{\tau})$
has a natural generalization to the refined case provided
the (log of the) refinement parameter transforms as Jacobi elliptic variable:

if $y = e^{2\pi i w}$ then $w \mapsto \frac{w}{c\tau + d}$

or $\begin{pmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \end{pmatrix}$ for $w = \alpha - \tau\beta$

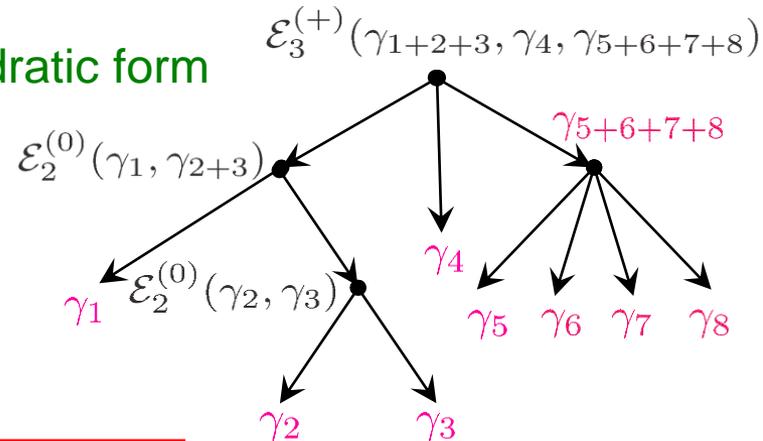
The unrefined construction can be obtained by taking the limit $y \rightarrow 1$

Modular completion

$$\widehat{h}_p^{\text{ref}} = h_p^{\text{ref}} + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \sum_{\sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_i = \gamma} R_n^{\text{ref}}(\{\gamma_i\}; \tau_2) (-y)^{\sum_{i<j} \gamma_{ij}} e^{\pi i \tau Q_n(\{\gamma_i\})} \prod_{i=1}^n h_{p_i}^{\text{ref}}$$

Jacobi modular form of weight $-\frac{1}{2} b_2$

- $\gamma_{ij} = \langle \gamma_i, \gamma_j \rangle$ — Dirac skew-symmetric product
- $Q_n = \kappa^{ab} q_a q_b - \sum_{i=1}^n \kappa_i^{ab} q_{i,a} q_{i,b}$ — indefinite quadratic form
- R_n^{ref} — sum over (**Schröder**) trees of products of signs and generalized error functions of order $n-1$ assigned to vertices of the trees, with parameters defined by charges



Generalized error functions

$$\Phi_n^E(\{\mathbf{v}_i\}, \mathbf{x}) = \int_{\text{Span}\{\mathbf{v}_i\}} d\mathbf{x}' e^{\pi(P(\mathbf{v}) \cdot \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}')^2} \prod_{i=1}^n \text{sgn}(\mathbf{v}_i \cdot \mathbf{x}')$$

$P(\mathbf{v})$ — projector on $\text{Span}\{\mathbf{v}_i\}$

For $n=1$ reduces to the usual error function

$$\Phi_1^E(\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{x}) = \text{Erf} \left(\sqrt{\pi} \frac{\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{v}}{|\mathbf{v}|} \right)$$

Modular completion – unrefined limit

The unrefined limit $y \rightarrow 1$

It is *well-defined* because the sum over charges produces a zero of order $n-1$ which cancels the poles of the refined generating functions



The unrefined construction differs only by the factors assigned to vertices of the trees which now involve sums of *derivatives* of the generalized error functions

Example: $n = 2$

$$R_2^{\text{ref}} = -\frac{1}{2} \text{sgn}(\gamma_{12}) \text{Erfc} \left(\sqrt{\frac{2\pi\tau_2}{(pp_1p_2)}} |\gamma_{12}| \right) \quad R_2 = -\frac{|\gamma_{12}|}{8\pi} \beta_{\frac{3}{2}} \left(\frac{2\tau_2\gamma_{12}^2}{(pp_1p_2)} \right)$$

where $(pp_1p_2) = \kappa_{abd} p^a p_1^b p_2^c$

$$\beta_{\frac{3}{2}}(x^2) = \frac{2}{|x|} e^{-\pi x^2} - 2\pi \text{Erfc}(\sqrt{\pi}|x|)$$

The origin of the completion

These results follow from

indefinite theta series of signature

$$(nb_2 - n + 1, n - 1)$$

$$\mathcal{G} \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{\tau_2}} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[\prod_{i=1}^n \sum_{p_i} h_{p_i}(\tau) \right] \theta_{\mathbf{p}}^{(n)}(\tau, t^a, b^a, \dots)$$

Modular properties of the theta series determine the properties of $h_p(\tau)$

rearrange the expansion

||

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{\tau_2}} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[\prod_{i=1}^n \sum_{p_i} \hat{h}_{p_i}(\tau, \bar{\tau}) \right] \hat{\theta}_{\mathbf{p}}^{(n)}(\tau, t^a, b^a, \dots)$$

modular completion *modular invariant*



for $n \geq 2$ there is a modular *anomaly*

How to construct modular completions of indefinite theta series?

Indefinite theta series

$$\vartheta_{\mathbf{p}}(\tau, \mathbf{z}) = \sum_{\mathbf{q} \in \Lambda + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{p}} (-1)^{\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{p}} e^{\pi i \tau \mathbf{q}^2 + 2\pi i \mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{z}}$$

d -dim. lattice \nearrow

If the quadratic form \mathbf{q}^2 is *positive definite*, the theta series is known to be a *Jacobi modular form*

$$\vartheta_{\mathbf{p}} \left(\frac{a\tau + b}{c\tau + d}, \frac{\mathbf{z}}{c\tau + d} \right) \sim \vartheta_{\mathbf{p}}(\tau, \mathbf{z})$$

What if the quadratic form is *indefinite*?

\longrightarrow the theta series diverges!

But one can make it convergent by restricting to the wedge where $\mathbf{q}^2 > 0$

Example: Lorentzian signature $(d-1, 1)$

$$\vartheta_{\mathbf{p}}(\tau, \mathbf{z}) = \sum_{\mathbf{q} \in \Lambda + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{p}} (-1)^{\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{p}} \left[\text{sgn}((\mathbf{q} + \mathbf{b}) \cdot \mathbf{v}) - \text{sgn}((\mathbf{q} + \mathbf{b}) \cdot \mathbf{v}') \right] e^{\pi i \tau \mathbf{q}^2 + 2\pi i \mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{z}}$$

$\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{c} - \tau \mathbf{b}$

Converges if $\mathbf{v}^2, \mathbf{v}'^2, \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{v}' < 0$. But the sign functions spoil modularity!

Can it be cured? — **Yes!**

The modular completion of $\vartheta_{\mathbf{p}}(\tau, \mathbf{z})$ is obtained by replacement

$$\text{sgn}(\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{v}) \rightarrow \text{Erf} \left(\sqrt{\pi} \frac{\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{v}}{|\mathbf{v}|} \right)$$

$$\mathbf{x} = \sqrt{2\tau_2}(\mathbf{q} + \mathbf{b})$$

Important property:

$$\text{Erf} \left(\sqrt{\pi} \frac{\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{v}}{|\mathbf{v}|} \right) \Big|_{|\mathbf{v}| \rightarrow 0} \rightarrow \text{sgn}(\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{v})$$



null vectors don't require completion

Mock modularity

$\mathcal{V}_p(\tau, z)$ is an example of *mock modular form*

Zwegers. '02

holomorphic function which is “almost” modular with an anomaly controlled by another modular form (*shadow*)

$$h(\tau) \mapsto (c\tau + d)^w \left(h(\tau) - \int_{-d/c}^{-i\infty} \frac{\overline{g(\bar{z})}}{(\tau - z)^w} dz \right)$$

modular form of weight $2 - w$

first 17 examples:
Ramanujan
(lost notebook)

and (*non-holomorphic*)

modular *completion* given by $\hat{h}(\tau, \bar{\tau}) = h(\tau) - \int_{\bar{\tau}}^{-i\infty} \frac{\overline{g(\bar{z})}}{(\tau - z)^w} dz$ — Eichler integral

In our case: $\text{Erf}(u\sqrt{\pi}) = \text{sgn}(u) - \text{sgn}(u) \text{Erfc}(|u|\sqrt{\pi})$

← can be written as
Eichler integral

Problem: what are the modular properties and the modular completion for generic signature?

Mock modularity of higher depth

Solution of this problem was found from the twistorial formulation of D-instantons
S.A., Banerjee, Manschot, Pioline; Nazarov '16

The kernel for signature $(d-n, n)$ is given by combinations of products of n signs.
The completion is obtained by

$$\prod_{i=1}^n \operatorname{sgn}(\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{v}_i) \rightarrow \Phi_n^E(\{\mathbf{v}_i\}, \mathbf{x})$$

generalized error functions

Indefinite theta series of signature $(d-n, n)$ are examples of mock modular forms of higher depth (equal to n)

$\partial_{\bar{\tau}} \widehat{h}(\tau)$ is expressed via mock modular forms of lower depth and $\widehat{h}(\tau)$ is constructed using n iterated Eichler integrals

The generating function of (refined) MSW invariants is a higher depth mock Jacobi form

$$\mathcal{D} = \mathcal{D}_1 + \cdots + \mathcal{D}_n$$

irreducible divisors

Depth = n-1

N=4 dyons

Appear in **Type IIA/K3×T²** or in **Het/T⁶** and labelled by charge $\Gamma = \begin{pmatrix} Q^I \\ P^I \end{pmatrix}$ transforming in **(2,28)** of $SL(2, \mathbb{Z}) \times O(22, 6, \mathbb{Z})$

→ Degeneracies depend only on duality invariants:

$$n = \frac{1}{2} Q^2 \quad m = \frac{1}{2} P^2 \quad \ell = Q \cdot P \quad \text{— T-duality invariants}$$

$$I = \text{gcd}(Q \wedge P) \quad \text{— U-duality invariant}$$

- **½ BPS states** $(Q^I \parallel P^I)$

Depend only on n and counted by $\Delta^{-1}(\tau) = \sum_{n=-1}^{\infty} \Omega_{1/2}(n) q^n = \eta^{-24}(\tau)$ true modular form
 where $q = e^{2\pi i \tau}$

- **¼ BPS states**

For $I = 1$ counted by (Igusa) Seigel modular form Dijkgraaf, Verlinde, Verlinde '96

$$\frac{1}{\Phi_{10}(\tau, z, \sigma)} = \sum_{m=-1}^{\infty} \psi_m(\tau, z) e^{2\pi i m \sigma} \quad \text{meromorphic Jacobi form}$$

$$\psi_m = \psi_m^P + \psi_m^F$$

Dabholkar, Murthy, Zagier '12

polar part counting
2-particle bound states

mock Jacobi forms

finite part counting
immortal dyons

↔ $\Omega_{\gamma}^{\text{MSW}}$

Holomorphic anomaly

Holomorphic anomaly for the modular completion

Dabholkar, Murthy, Zagier '12

$$\tau_2^{3/2} \partial_{\bar{\tau}} \widehat{\psi}_m^F = \frac{\sqrt{m}}{8\pi i} \frac{\Omega_{1/2}(m)}{\Delta(\tau)} \sum_{\ell=0}^{2m-1} \overline{\theta_{m,\ell}(\tau, 0)} \theta_{m,\ell}(\tau, z)$$

where

$$\theta_{m,\ell}(\tau, z) = \sum_{r \in 2m\mathbb{Z} + \ell} q^{\frac{r^2}{4m}} y^r$$

$$(y - y^{-1}) \partial_{\bar{\tau}} \widehat{h}_p^{\text{ref}} \sim \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \sum_{\sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_i = \gamma} \Theta_n(\{\gamma_i\}; y) \prod_{i=1}^n \Omega(\gamma_i, y)$$

Do they agree?

Holomorphic anomaly

Holomorphic anomaly for the modular completion

Dabholkar,Murthy,Zagier '12

$$\tau_2^{3/2} \partial_{\bar{\tau}} \widehat{\psi}_m^F = \frac{\sqrt{m}}{8\pi i} \frac{\Omega_{1/2}(m)}{\Delta(\tau)} \sum_{\ell=0}^{2m-1} \overline{\theta_{m,\ell}(\tau, 0)} \theta_{m,\ell}(\tau, z)$$

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They do agree!

helicity supertraces

$$B_{2n}(\gamma) = \text{Tr}_{\mathcal{H}_\gamma} \left[(-1)^{2J_3} J_3^{2n} \right]$$

- $\Omega(\gamma) \sim B_2(\gamma)$
- $\Omega_{1/2}(n) \sim B_4(\gamma)$
- $\Omega_{1/4}(n, m, \ell) \sim B_6(\gamma)$

helicity generating function

$$B(\gamma, y) = \text{Tr}_{\mathcal{H}_\gamma} \left[(-y)^{2J_3} \right]$$

- $\sim \partial_y^2 B(\gamma, y)|_{y=1}$
- $\sim \partial_y^4 B(\gamma, y)|_{y=1}$
- $\sim \partial_y^6 B(\gamma, y)|_{y=1}$

refined BPS index

$$\Omega(\gamma, y) \sim \frac{yB(\gamma, y)}{2(1-y)^2}$$

- $= \Omega(\gamma, y)|_{y=1}$
- $\sim \partial_y^2 \Omega(\gamma, y)|_{y=1}$
- $\sim \partial_y^4 \Omega(\gamma, y)|_{y=1}$

The refined construction allows to go beyond the case $I = 1$

Relation to Vafa-Witten

Consider a CY given by an elliptic fibration over a projective surface S and take a *local limit* where the elliptic fiber becomes large

- local CY – the canonical bundle over S
non-compact!
- The only surviving divisor is the base of the fibration $[S]$

$$\text{(refined) DT invariant of local CY} = \text{(refined) VW invariant of } S$$

$$\longrightarrow p^a = N p_0^a \longleftarrow \text{charge corresponding to } [S]$$



All D4-brane charges are collinear!

$$\text{degree of reducibility of the divisor} \quad \text{--- } N \quad \text{---} \quad \text{rank of the VW gauge group } U(N)$$

Prediction for all ranks and surfaces with

$$b_2^+(S) = 1, \quad b_1(S) = 0$$

$$\widehat{h}_{N, J=-K_S}^{\text{VW, ref}} = \widehat{h}_{N p_0}^{\text{ref}}$$

canonical polarization (attractor chamber)

Check: for $S = \mathbb{P}^2$ the modular completions have been explicitly computed for $N=2$ and 3 (*only!*). They perfectly coincide with our predictions!

Rank N Vafa-Witten invariants

The formula for the completion allows to find the VW invariants themselves!

Example: $N = 2$

$$\widehat{h}_2 = h_2 + \frac{h_1^2}{2} \sum_{k \in \Lambda_S} \left(\operatorname{Erf} \left(2 \sqrt{\frac{\pi \tau_2}{K_S^2}} (K_S \cdot k + \beta K_S^2) \right) - \operatorname{sgn}(K_S \cdot k) \right) q^{-k^2} y^{2K_S \cdot k}$$

where for all surfaces

$$h_1 = \frac{i}{\theta_1(\tau, 2z) \eta(\tau)^{b_2(S)-1}}$$

modularity requires the kernel

$$\operatorname{Erf}(\sqrt{\tau_2} v \cdot (k + \beta K_S)) - \operatorname{Erf}(\sqrt{\tau_2} v' \cdot (k + \beta K_S))$$

Rank N Vafa-Witten invariants

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$$h_1 = \frac{i}{\theta_1(\tau, 2z) \eta(\tau)^{b_2(S)-1}}$$

modularity requires the kernel

$$\text{Erf}(\sqrt{\tau_2} v \cdot (k + \beta K_S)) - \text{sgn}(v_0 \cdot (k + \beta K_S))$$

holomorphic! $v_0^2 = 0$

$$h_{2,-K_S} = H_2 + \frac{h_1^2}{2} \sum_{k \in \Lambda_S} (\text{sgn}(K_S \cdot k) - \text{sgn}(v_0 \cdot (k + \beta K_S))) q^{-k^2} y^{2K_S \cdot k}$$

holomorphic & modular

H_2 is found by requiring well-defined unrefined limit

→ $h_1^{-2} h_2$ must have a zero at $y = \pm 1$

**Explicit expressions
for generating functions of refined
VW invariants and their completions
for all N**



for Hirzebruch and del Pezzo

$$H_2 \sim \frac{i \eta(\tau)}{\theta_1(\tau, 4z) \theta_1(\tau, 2z)^2}$$

Rank N Vafa-Witten invariants

The formula for the completion allows to find the VW invariants themselves!

Example: $N = 2$

$$\widehat{h}_2 = h_2 + \frac{h_1^2}{2} \sum_{k \in \Lambda_S} \left(\operatorname{Erf} \left(2 \sqrt{\frac{\pi \tau_2}{K_S^2}} (K_S \cdot k + \beta K_S^2) \right) - \operatorname{sgn}(K_S \cdot k) \right) q^{-k^2} y^{2K_S \cdot k}$$

where for all surfaces

$$h_1 = \frac{i}{\theta_1(\tau, 2z) \eta(\tau)^{b_2(S)-1}}$$

modularity requires the kernel

$$\operatorname{Erf}(\sqrt{\tau_2} v \cdot (k + \beta K_S)) - \operatorname{sgn}(v_0 \cdot (k + \beta K_S))$$

holomorphic! $v_0^2 = 0$

$$h_{2,J} = H_2 + \frac{h_1^2}{2} \sum_{k \in \Lambda_S} (\operatorname{sgn}((-J) \cdot k) - \operatorname{sgn}(v_0 \cdot (k + \beta K_S))) q^{-k^2} y^{2K_S \cdot k}$$

holomorphic & modular

H_2 is found by requiring well-defined unrefined limit

$\longrightarrow h_1^{-2} h_2$ must have a zero at $y = \pm 1$

for Hirzebruch and del Pezzo

$$H_2 \sim \frac{i \eta(\tau)}{\theta_1(\tau, 4z) \theta_1(\tau, 2z)^2}$$

**Explicit expressions
for generating functions of refined
VW invariants and their completions
for all N and all J**

Comments

- This construction requires only two ingredients:
 - 1) a *unimodular* charge (second homology) lattice Λ_S
 - 2) a *null* vector $v_0 \in \Lambda_S$

What if there are several null vectors in the lattice?

- The null vectors satisfying $v_0 \cdot v'_0 = 1$ & $v_0 \cdot K_S = v'_0 \cdot K_S$ give the *same* generating functions \longleftarrow example of *fiber-base duality*
Requires very non-trivial identities between theta functions!
Katz, Mayr, Vafa '97
simplest example $\mathbb{F}_0 = \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1$
- Other null vectors give different generating functions \longrightarrow **new invariants?**
simplest example $S = \mathbb{F}_1$
- What if the lattice does not have a null vector? simplest example $S = \mathbb{P}^2$
Then one can extend the lattice by multiplying the formula for the completion by a theta series



Explicit results at all N for
 $S = \mathbb{P}^2$



An improved version of the
blow-up formula

Holomorphic anomaly of VW partition function

There is a conjecture for $U(N)$ Vafa-Witten theory
(checked for $S = \frac{1}{2}K3$ and \mathbb{P}^2 up to $N \leq 3$)

Minahan, Nemeschansky,
Vafa, Warner '98

$$\partial_{\bar{\tau}} \widehat{Z}_N^{\text{VW}} \sim \sum_{N=N_1+N_2} N_1 N_2 \widehat{Z}_{N_1}^{\text{VW}} \widehat{Z}_{N_2}^{\text{VW}}$$

where $\widehat{Z}_N^{\text{VW}} = \widehat{h}_N^{\text{VW}}(\tau) \vartheta_N^{\text{SN}}(\tau, v)$ — partition function
 $\vartheta_N^{\text{SN}}(\tau, v)$ — Siegel-Narain theta series

Our formula for the modular completion implies:

$$\partial_{\bar{\tau}} \widehat{h}_p^{\text{ref}}(\tau, y) = \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \sum_{\sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_i = \gamma} \mathcal{J}_n^{\text{ref}}(\{\gamma_i\}, \tau_2) (-y)^{\sum_{i < j} \gamma_{ij}} e^{\pi i \tau Q_n(\{\gamma_i\})} \prod_{i=1}^n \widehat{h}_{p_i}^{\text{ref}}(\tau, y)$$

How can these two anomalies be consistent?

Holomorphic anomaly: unrefined case

The key restriction: D4-brane charges are collinear $p^a = N p_0^a$

$$\mathcal{J}_n^{\text{ref}} = 0, \quad n > 2$$

$$\partial_{\bar{\tau}} \hat{h}_N = \sum_{\substack{N_1 + N_2 = N \\ q_{1,a} + q_{2,a} = q_a}} \frac{(-1)^{\gamma_{12}}}{8\pi i (2\tau_2)^{3/2}} \sqrt{p_0^3 N N_1 N_2} e^{-\frac{2\pi\tau_2\gamma_{12}^2}{p_0^3 N N_1 N_2}} e^{\pi i \tau Q_2(\gamma_i, \gamma_2)} \hat{h}_{N_1} \hat{h}_{N_2}$$

The crucial property: $\vartheta_N^{\text{SN}} = \sum_{q_a} (-1)^{p^a q_a} \chi_{N,q}^{\text{SN}}$

← exponential factor defining the Siegel-Narain theta series

Then $\chi_{N,q}^{\text{SN}} = e^{\frac{2\pi\tau_2\gamma_{12}^2}{p_0^3 N N_1 N_2}} e^{-\pi i \tau Q_2(\gamma_1, \gamma_2)} \chi_{N_1, q_1}^{\text{SN}} \chi_{N_2, q_2}^{\text{SN}}$

$$\bar{\mathcal{D}} \hat{\mathcal{Z}}_N = \frac{\sqrt{2\tau_2}}{32\pi i} \sum_{N_1 + N_2 = N} N_1 N_2 \hat{\mathcal{Z}}_{N_1} \hat{\mathcal{Z}}_{N_2}$$

$$\hat{\mathcal{Z}}_N = \frac{\sqrt{p_0^3}}{\sqrt{N}} \hat{h}_N(\tau) \vartheta_N^{\text{SN}}(\tau, v)$$

$$\bar{\mathcal{D}} = \tau_2^2 \left(\partial_{\bar{\tau}} - \frac{i}{4\pi} (\partial_{c_+} + 2\pi i b_+)^2 \right)$$

such that $\bar{\mathcal{D}} \vartheta_N^{\text{SN}} = 0$

Holomorphic anomaly: refined case

Can one write a similar anomaly equation for the refined partition function?

$$\partial_{\bar{\tau}} \widehat{h}_N^{\text{ref}} = \sum_{\substack{N_1+N_2=N \\ q_{1,a}+q_{2,a}=q_a}} \frac{i(-y)^{\gamma_{12}}}{2\sqrt{2\tau_2}} \frac{\gamma_{12} - \beta p_0^3 N N_1 N_2}{\sqrt{p_0^3 N N_1 N_2}} e^{-2\pi\tau_2 \frac{(\gamma_{12} + \beta p_0^3 N N_1 N_2)^2}{p_0^3 N N_1 N_2}} e^{\pi i \tau Q_2(\gamma_i, \gamma_2)} \widehat{h}_{N_1}^{\text{ref}} \widehat{h}_{N_2}^{\text{ref}}$$

The product property of $\chi_{N,q}^{\text{SN}}$ is not enough to absorb all factors.

This can be done using the *non-commutative star product*:

$$f \star g = f \exp \left[\frac{1}{2\pi i} \left(\overleftarrow{\mathcal{D}}_a \overrightarrow{\partial}_{\tilde{c}_a} - \overleftarrow{\partial}_{\tilde{c}_a} \overrightarrow{\mathcal{D}}_a \right) \right] g$$

$$\mathcal{D}_a = w \partial_{v^a} + \bar{w} \partial_{\bar{v}^a}$$

$$= \alpha \partial_{c^a} + \beta \partial_{b^a}$$

\tilde{c}_a, c^a – RR-fields coupled to D4 and D2-brane charges



$$\overline{\mathcal{D}} \widehat{\mathcal{Z}}_N^{\text{ref}} = \frac{i(2\tau_2)^{3/2}}{32\pi^2 p_0^3 N} \sum_{N_1+N_2=N} \left(\partial_{\bar{v}^a} \widehat{\mathcal{Z}}_{N_2}^{\text{ref}} \star \partial_{\tilde{c}_a} \widehat{\mathcal{Z}}_{N_1}^{\text{ref}} - \partial_{\tilde{c}_a} \widehat{\mathcal{Z}}_{N_2}^{\text{ref}} \star \partial_{\bar{v}^a} \widehat{\mathcal{Z}}_{N_1}^{\text{ref}} \right)$$

where $\widehat{\mathcal{Z}}_N^{\text{ref}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N p_0^3}} \widehat{h}_N^{\text{ref}}(\tau, y) \vartheta_N^{\text{SN}}(\tau, v)$

Refined instanton generating potential

The refined construction lacks justification from the S-duality constraint

Unrefined case:

$$\mathcal{G} = \sum_{\gamma \in \Gamma_+} \int_{\ell_\gamma} dz H_\gamma - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\gamma_1, \gamma_2 \in \Gamma_+} \int_{\ell_{\gamma_1}} dz_1 \int_{\ell_{\gamma_2}} dz_2 K_{\gamma_1 \gamma_2} H_{\gamma_1} H_{\gamma_2} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\tau_2}} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[\prod_{i=1}^n \sum_{p_i} \hat{h}_{p_i}(\tau) \right] \hat{\theta}_{\mathbf{p}}(\tau, \mathbf{v})$$

where

$$K_{\gamma_1 \gamma_2} = 2\pi \left(\kappa_{abc} t^a p_1^b p_2^c + \frac{i \langle \gamma_1, \gamma_2 \rangle}{z_1 - z_2} \right)$$

and $H_\gamma(z)$ encodes *Darboux coordinates* on the twistor space of \mathcal{M} and is determined by a *TBA-like equation*

large volume limit of the integral equation of Gaiotto-Moore-Neitzke for N=2 SYM / S^1



$$H_\gamma(z) = H_\gamma^{\text{cl}}(z) \exp \left[\sum_{\gamma' \in \Gamma_+} \int_{\ell_{\gamma'}} dz' K_{\gamma \gamma'}(z, z') H_{\gamma'}(z') \right]$$

$$H_\gamma^{\text{cl}} = \bar{\Omega}(\gamma) e^{-2\pi i \hat{q}_0 - \pi i \tau (q+b)^2 - 2\pi \tau_2 z^2 + \dots}$$

Refined analogue of the instanton generating potential:

$$\mathcal{G}^{\text{ref}}(y) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\tau_2}} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[\prod_{i=1}^n \sum_{p_i} \hat{h}_{p_i}^{\text{ref}}(\tau, y) \right] \hat{\vartheta}_{\mathbf{p}}^{\text{ref}}(\tau, \mathbf{v}, y) \quad \text{— by construction, Jacobi modular form of weight } \left(-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right)$$

obtained by shifting the elliptic variable $\hat{\vartheta}_{\mathbf{p}}^{\text{ref}}(\tau, \mathbf{v}, y) = \hat{\vartheta}_{\mathbf{p}}(\tau, \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w}\mathbf{p})$

corresponds to the insertion of $y^{\sum_{i < j} \langle \gamma_i, \gamma_j \rangle}$

Refined TBA equations

It is possible to reverse the derivation and obtain an *integral, non-perturbative* representation of \mathcal{G}^{ref}

$$\mathcal{G}^{\text{ref}} = \sum_{\gamma \in \Gamma_+} \int_{\ell_\gamma} dz H_\gamma^{\text{ref}}$$

where

$$H_\gamma^{\text{ref}}(z) = H_\gamma^{\text{ref,cl}}(z) \star \left[1 + \sum_{\gamma'} \int_{\ell_{\gamma'}} \frac{dz'}{z - z'} H_{\gamma'}^{\text{ref}}(z') \right]$$

**Non-commutative
TBA-like integral equation**

$$H_\gamma^{\text{ref,cl}} = \frac{\bar{\Omega}(\gamma, y)}{(y - y^{-1})} e^{-2\pi i \hat{q}_0 - \pi i \tau (q+b)^2 - 2\pi \tau_2 z^2 + \dots}$$

**The refinement effectively quantizes
the moduli space and its twistor space
consistently with S-duality**

- However, the unrefined limit $y \rightarrow 1$ is non-trivial...
- Relation to the non-commutative TBA equation for framed BPS states [Gaiotto-Moore-Neitzke '13] is not clear

Conclusions

Main result: *Explicit* form of the *modular completion* of the generating function of (refined) black hole degeneracies (DT invariants) at large volume attractor point for *arbitrary* divisor of CY

→ $h_p(\tau)$ – higher depth mock modular form

Numerous applications: N=4 dyons, VW invariants for arbitrary rank, fiber-base duality, blow-up formula, holomorphic anomaly, quantization of the moduli space consistent with S-duality....

Open problems:

- Extension of this technique to evaluation of DT invariants for *compact* CYs
- Understanding the non-commutative geometry of the refined moduli space and relations to previous constructions
 - relation to *twistorial topological string*? [Ceccotti-Neitzke-Vafa '14]
- Geometric or physical meaning of the (refined) instanton generating potential
- Geometric or physical meaning of the invariants generated by “wrong” null vectors
- Understanding the completion from the point of view of the world-volume theory on M5-brane wrapped on a reducible divisor