

# Counting Calabi-Yau black holes with (mock) modular forms

Boris Pioline



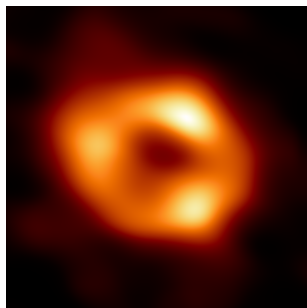
Joint Belgian Seminars  
Brussels, 15/3/2023

- *"Black holes and higher depth mock modular forms"*, with S. Alexandrov, Commun.Math.Phys. 374 (2019) 549 [arXiv:1808.08479]
- *"S-duality and refined BPS indices"*, with S. Alexandrov and J. Manschot, Commun.Math.Phys. 380 (2020) 755 [arXiv:1910.03098]
- *"Modular bootstrap for D4-D2-D0 indices on compact Calabi-Yau threefolds"*, with S. Alexandrov, N. Gaddam, J. Manschot [arXiv:2204.02207]
- *"Quantum geometry, stability and modularity"*, with S. Alexandrov, S. Feyzbakhsh, A. Klemm, T. Schimannek [arXiv:2301.08066]

# Introduction

- A driving force in high energy theoretical physics has been the quest for a **microscopic explanation of the entropy of black holes**. Providing a derivation of the Bekenstein-Hawking formula is a benchmark test of any theory of quantum gravity.

$$S_{BH} = \frac{A}{4G_N}$$

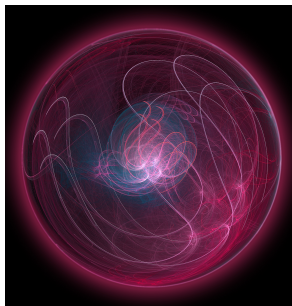


$$S_{BH} \stackrel{?}{=} \log \Omega$$

*Sgr A\*, Event Horizon Telescope 2022*

# Black hole microstates as wrapped D-branes

- Back in 1996, Strominger and Vafa argued that String Theory passes this test with **flying colors**, at least in the context of **BPS black holes in vacua with extended SUSY**: black hole micro-states can be understood as **bound states of D-branes** wrapped on the internal manifold, and sometimes can be counted efficiently.



*Calabi-Yau black hole, courtesy F. Le Guen*

- In the context of type IIA strings compactified on a Calabi-Yau three-fold  $\mathfrak{X}$ , BPS states are described mathematically by **stable objects in the derived category of coherent sheaves**  $\mathcal{C} = D^b\text{Coh}\mathfrak{X}$ . The Chern character  $\gamma = (\text{ch}_0, \text{ch}_1, \text{ch}_2, \text{ch}_3)$  is identified as the electromagnetic charge, or D6-D4-D2-D0-brane charge.
- The problem becomes a question in **enumerative geometry**: for fixed  $\gamma \in K(\mathfrak{X})$ , compute the **Donaldson-Thomas invariant**  $\Omega_z(\gamma)$  counting **(semi)stable objects** of class  $\gamma$  for a **Bridgeland stability condition**  $z \in \text{Stab}\mathcal{C}$ , and determine its growth as  $|\gamma| \rightarrow \infty$ .
- Physical arguments predict that suitable generating series of **rank 0 DT invariants** (counting D4-D2-D0 bound states) should have specific **modular properties**. This gives very good control on their asymptotic growth, and allows to check whether  $\Omega_z(\gamma) \simeq e^{S_{BH}(\gamma)}$ .

# Simplest example: Abelian three-fold

- For  $\mathfrak{X} = T^6$ ,  $\Omega_Z(\gamma)$  depends only on a certain quartic polynomial  $I_4(\gamma)$  in the charges, and is moduli independent. It is given by the Fourier coefficient  $c(I_4(\gamma) + 1)$  of a **weak modular form**,

$$\frac{\theta_3(2\tau)}{\eta^6(4\tau)} = \sum_{n \geq 0} c(n) q^{n-1} = \frac{1}{q} + 2 + 8q^3 + 12q^4 + 39q^7 + 56q^8 + \dots$$

*Moore Maldacena Strominger 1999, BP 2005, Shih Strominger Yin 2005*

*Bryan Oberdieck Pandharipande Yin'15*

- Recall that  $f(\tau) := \sum_{n \geq 0} c(n) q^{n-\Delta}$  (with  $q = e^{2\pi i \tau}$ ,  $\text{Im} \tau > 0$ ) is a **modular form** of weight  $w$  if  $\forall \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in \Gamma \subset SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ ,

$$f\left(\frac{a\tau+b}{c\tau+d}\right) = (c\tau+d)^w f(\tau) \quad \Rightarrow \quad c(n) \stackrel{n \rightarrow \infty}{\sim} \exp\left(4\pi\sqrt{\Delta(n-\Delta)}\right)$$

in agreement with  $S_{BH}(\gamma) = \frac{1}{4} A(\gamma)$ .

# Wall-crossing and mock modularity

- For a general CY3, the story is more involved and interesting. First,  $\Omega_z(\gamma)$  depends on the Kähler parameters  $z$  (more generally, on the stability condition), with a complicated **chamber structure**.
- Second, the generating series of rank 0 DT invariants in the **large volume attractor chamber**, denoted by  $\Omega_*(\gamma)$ , are generally not modular but rather **mock modular of higher depth**.
- A (depth one) mock modular form of weight  $w$  transforms inhomogeneously under  $\Gamma \subset SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$  (or  $Mp(2, \mathbb{Z})$  if  $w \in \mathbb{Z} + \frac{1}{2}$ )

$$f\left(\frac{a\tau+b}{c\tau+d}\right) = (c\tau+d)^w \left[ f(\tau) - \int_{-d/c}^{i\infty} \overline{g(-\bar{\rho})}(\tau+\rho)^{-w} d\rho \right]$$

where  $g(\tau)$  is an ordinary modular form of weight  $2 - w$ , known as the **shadow**.

- Equivalently, the **non-holomorphic completion**

$$\widehat{f}(\tau, \bar{\tau}) := f(\tau) + \int_{-\bar{\tau}}^{i\infty} \overline{g(-\bar{\rho})} (\tau + \rho)^{-w} d\rho$$

transforms like a modular form of weight  $w$ , and satisfies the holomorphic anomaly equation

$$\tau_2^w \partial_{\bar{\tau}} \widehat{f}(\tau, \bar{\tau}) \propto \overline{g(\tau)}$$

- Ramanujan's mock  $\theta$ -functions belong to this class, along with indefinite theta series of Lorentzian signature  $(1, n - 1)$  [Zwegers'02]
- The Fourier coefficients still grow as  $c(n) \sim \exp\left(4\pi\sqrt{\Delta(n - \Delta)}\right)$  but subleading corrections are markedly different.



- 1 Review some mathematical background on Bridgeland stability conditions on  $\mathcal{C} = D^b\text{Coh}\mathfrak{X}$
- 2 Spell out the modularity properties of rank 0 DT invariants on a general compact CY threefold
- 3 Test modularity for compact CY threefolds with  $b_2(\mathfrak{X}) = 1$ , using recent results of S. Feyzbakhsh and R. Thomas
- 4 Obtain new constraints on higher genus GW/GV invariants from modularity of rank 0 DT invariants

# Mathematical preliminaries

- Let  $\mathfrak{X}$  a compact CY threefold, and  $\mathcal{C} = D^b\text{Coh}\mathfrak{X}$  the bounded derived category of coherent sheaves. Objects  $E \in \mathcal{C}$  are bounded complexes of coherent sheaves  $\mathcal{E}^k$  on  $\mathfrak{X}$ ,

$$E = (\dots \xrightarrow{d^{-2}} \mathcal{E}^{-1} \xrightarrow{d^{-1}} \mathcal{E}^0 \xrightarrow{d^0} \mathcal{E}^1 \xrightarrow{d^1} \dots),$$

with morphisms  $d^k : \mathcal{E}^k \rightarrow \mathcal{E}^{k+1}$  such that  $d^{k+1}d^k = 0$ . Physically,  $\mathcal{E}^k$  describe **D6-branes** for  $k$  even, or **anti D6-branes** for  $k$  odd, and  $d^k$  are open strings .

- $\mathcal{C}$  is graded by the Grothendieck group  $K(\mathcal{C})$ . Let  $\Gamma \subset H^{\text{even}}(\mathfrak{X}, \mathbb{Q})$  be the image of  $K(\mathcal{C})$  under  $E \mapsto \text{ch } E = \sum_k (-1)^k \text{ch } \mathcal{E}_k$ . The **lattice of electromagnetic charges**  $\Gamma$  is equipped with the skew-symmetric (Dirac-Schwinger-Zwanziger) pairing

$$\langle E, E' \rangle = \chi(E', E) = \int_{\mathfrak{X}} (\text{ch } E')^\vee \text{ch}(E) \text{Td}(T\mathfrak{X}) \in \mathbb{Z}$$

# Bridgeland stability conditions

- Let  $\mathcal{S} = \text{Stab}(\mathcal{C})$  be the space of **Bridgeland stability conditions**  $\sigma = (Z, \mathcal{A})$ , where
  - 1  $Z : \Gamma \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is a linear map, known as the **central charge**. Let  $Z(E) := Z(\text{ch}(E))$ .
  - 2  $\mathcal{A} \subset \mathcal{C}$  is an Abelian subcategory (heart of bounded  $t$ -structure).
  - 3 For any non-zero  $E \in \mathcal{A}$ , (i)  $\text{Im}Z(E) \geq 0$  and (ii)  $\text{Im}Z(E) = 0 \Rightarrow \text{Re}Z(E) < 0$ . Relax (ii) for **weak** stability conditions.
  - 4 Harder-Narasimhan filtration + support property
- If  $\mathcal{S}$  is not empty, then it is a complex manifold of dimension  $\text{rk } \Gamma = b_{\text{even}}(\mathfrak{X})$ , locally parametrized by  $Z(\gamma_i)$  with  $\gamma_i$  a basis of  $\Gamma$ .
- Stability conditions are known to exist only for a handful of CY threefolds, including the quintic in  $\mathbb{P}^4$  [Li'18]. Their construction depends on the conjectural **Bayer-Macri-Toda (BMT) inequality**. Weak stability conditions are much easier to construct.

# Physical stability conditions

- Physics/Mirror symmetry conjecturally selects a subspace  $\Pi \subset \text{Stab } \mathcal{C}$ , known as ‘physical slice’ or slice of  $\Pi$ -stability conditions, parametrized by complexified Kähler structure of  $\mathfrak{X}$ , or complex structure of  $\hat{\mathfrak{X}}$ . Hence  $\dim_{\mathbb{C}} \Pi = b_2(\mathfrak{X}) + 1 = b_3(\hat{\mathfrak{X}})$ .
- Along this slice, the central charge is given by the period

$$Z(\gamma) = \int_{\hat{\gamma}} \Omega_{3,0}$$

of the holomorphic 3-form on  $\hat{\mathfrak{X}}$  on a dual 3-cycle  $\hat{\gamma} \in H_3(\hat{\mathfrak{X}}, \mathbb{Z})$ .

- Near the large volume point in  $\mathcal{M}_K(\mathfrak{X})$ , or MUM point in  $\mathcal{M}_{\text{cx}}(\hat{\mathfrak{X}})$ ,

$$Z(E) \sim - \int_{\mathfrak{X}} e^{-z^a H_a} \sqrt{Td(T\mathfrak{X})} \text{ch}(E)$$

where  $H_a$  is a basis of  $H^2(\mathfrak{X}, \mathbb{Z})$ , and  $z^a = b^a + it^a$  are the complexified Kähler moduli.

# Generalized Donaldson-Thomas invariants

- Given a (weak) stability condition  $\sigma = (Z, \mathcal{A})$ , an object  $F \in \mathcal{A}$  is called  $\sigma$ -semi-stable if  $\arg Z(F') \leq \arg Z(F)$  for every non-zero subobject  $F' \subset F$  (where  $0 < \arg Z \leq \pi$ ).
- Let  $\mathcal{M}_\sigma(\gamma)$  be the moduli stack of  $\sigma$ -semi-stable objects of class  $\gamma$  in  $\mathcal{A}$ . Following [Joyce-Song'08] one can associate the DT invariant  $\bar{\Omega}_\sigma(\gamma) \in \mathbb{Q}$ . When  $\gamma$  is primitive and  $\mathcal{M}_\sigma(\gamma)$  is a smooth projective variety, then  $\bar{\Omega}_\sigma(\gamma) = (-1)^{\dim_{\mathbb{C}} \mathcal{M}_\sigma(\gamma)} \chi(\mathcal{M}_\sigma(\gamma))$ .
- Conjecturally, the generalized DT invariant defined by

$$\Omega_\sigma(\gamma) = \sum_{m|\gamma} \frac{\mu(m)}{m^2} \bar{\Omega}_\sigma(\gamma/m)$$

is integer for any  $\gamma$ , and coincides with the physical BPS index along the slice  $\Pi \subset \text{Stab } \mathcal{C}$ .

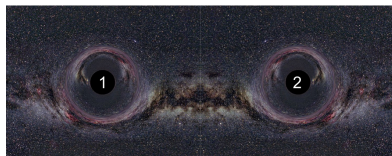
# Wall-crossing

- The invariants  $\bar{\Omega}_\sigma(\gamma)$  are locally constant on  $\mathcal{S}$ , but jump across **walls of instability** (or marginal stability), where the central charge  $Z(\gamma)$  aligns with  $Z(\gamma')$  where  $\gamma' = \text{ch } E'$  for a subobject  $E' \subset E$ . The jump is governed by a **universal wall-crossing formula**.

*Joyce Song'08; Kontsevich Soibelman'08*

- Physically, the jump corresponds to the (dis)appearance of **multi-centered black hole bound states**. In the simplest case,

$$\Delta \bar{\Omega}(\gamma_1 + \gamma_2) = (-1)^{\langle \gamma_1, \gamma_2 \rangle + 1} |\langle \gamma_1, \gamma_2 \rangle| \bar{\Omega}(\gamma_1) \bar{\Omega}(\gamma_2)$$



# S-duality constraints on DT invariants

- Constraints on DT invariants can be derived by studying **instanton corrections to the moduli space** in  $\text{IIA}/\mathfrak{X} \times S^1(R) = \text{M}/\mathfrak{X} \times T^2(\tau)$ .
- The moduli space  $\mathcal{M}_3$  factorizes into  $\mathcal{M}_H \times \widetilde{\mathcal{M}}_V$  where
  - 1  $\mathcal{M}_H$  parametrizes the **complex structure** of  $\mathfrak{X}$  + dilaton  $\phi$  + Ramond gauge fields in  $H^{\text{odd}}(\mathfrak{X})$
  - 2  $\widetilde{\mathcal{M}}_V$  parametrizes the **Kähler structure** of  $\mathfrak{X}$  + **radius  $R$**  + Ramond gauge fields in  $H^{\text{odd}}(\mathfrak{X})$
- Both factors carry a **quaternion-Kähler metric**.  $\mathcal{M}_H$  is largely irrelevant for this talk, but note that  $\mathcal{M}_H$  and  $\widetilde{\mathcal{M}}_V$  get exchanged under mirror symmetry.

# S-duality constraints on DT invariants

- Near  $R \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $\widetilde{\mathcal{M}}_V$  is a torus bundle over  $\mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathcal{M}_K$  with semi-flat QK metric, but the QK metric receives  $\mathcal{O}(e^{-R|Z(\gamma)|})$  corrections from **Euclidean black holes** winding around  $S^1$ .
- These corrections are determined from the DT invariants  $\Omega_Z(\gamma)$  by a **twistorial construction** à la Gaiotto-Moore-Neitzke [*Alexandrov BP Saueressig Vandoren'08*]
- Since type IIA/ $S^1(R)$  is the same as M-theory on  $T^2(\tau)$ ,  $\widetilde{\mathcal{M}}_V$  must have an **isometric action of  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$** . This strongly constrains the DT invariants in the large volume limit [*Alexandrov, Banerjee, Manschot, BP, Robles-Llana, Persson, Rocek, Saueressig, Theis, Vandoren '06-19*]



# S-duality constraints on BPS indices

Requiring that  $\widetilde{\mathcal{M}}_V$  admits an isometric action of  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$  near large volume, one can show that DT invariants  $\Omega_Z(\text{ch}_0, \text{ch}_1, \text{ch}_2, \text{ch}_3)$  satisfy

- For skyscraper sheaves (or D0-branes),  $\Omega_Z(0, 0, 0, n) = -\chi_{\mathfrak{X}}$
- For classes supported on a **curve** of class  $q_a \gamma^a \in \Lambda^* = H_2(\mathfrak{X}, \mathbb{Z})$ ,  $\Omega_Z(0, 0, q_a, n) = \text{GV}_{q_a}^{(0)}$  is given by the genus-zero GV invariant
- For classes supported on an **irreducible divisor**  $\mathcal{D}$  of class  $p^a \gamma_a \in \Lambda = H_4(\mathfrak{X}, \mathbb{Z})$ , the **generating series of rank 0 DT invariants**

$$h_{p^a, q_a}(\tau) := \sum_n \bar{\Omega}_*(0, p^a, q_a, n) q^{n + \frac{1}{2} q_a \kappa^{ab} q_b - \frac{1}{2} p^a q_a - \frac{\chi(\mathcal{D})}{24}}$$

should be a vector-valued, **weakly holomorphic modular form** of weight  $w = -\frac{1}{2} b_2(\mathfrak{X}) - 1$  and prescribed multiplier system.

# S-duality constraints on D4-D2-D0 indices

$$h_{p^a, q_a}(\tau) = \sum_n \bar{\Omega}_*(0, p^a, q_a, n) q^{n + \frac{1}{2} q_a \kappa^{ab} q_b + \frac{1}{2} p^a q_a - \frac{\chi(\mathcal{D})}{24}}$$

- Here,  $\bar{\Omega}_*(0, p^a, q_a, n)$  is the index in the **large volume attractor chamber**

$$\bar{\Omega}_*(\gamma) = \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \bar{\Omega}_{-\kappa^{ab} q_b + i\lambda p^a}(\gamma)$$

where  $\kappa^{ab}$  is the inverse of the quadratic form  $\kappa_{ab} = \kappa_{abc} p^c$  with Lorentzian signature  $(1, b_2(\mathfrak{X}) - 1)$ .

- The classical Bogomolov-Gieseker inequality guarantees that  $n$  is bounded from below,  $n \geq -\frac{1}{2} q_a \kappa^{ab} q_b - \frac{1}{2} p^a q_a$ . The BH entropy predicts that  $\bar{\Omega}_*(0, p^a, q_a, n) \sim e^{2\pi \sqrt{\frac{n}{6}} \kappa_{abc} p^a p^b p^c}$  for  $n \gg 1$  so the sum should converge for  $|q| < 1$  or  $\text{Im}\tau > 0$ .

# S-duality constraints on D4-D2-D0 indices

- By construction,  $\Omega_*(0, p^a, q_a, n)$  is invariant under tensoring with a line bundle  $\mathcal{O}(m^a H_a)$  (aka **spectral flow**)

$$q_a \rightarrow q_a - \kappa_{ab} m^b, \quad n \mapsto n - m^a q_a + \frac{1}{2} \kappa_{ab} m^a m^b$$

Thus, the D2-brane charge  $q_a$  can be restricted to the finite set  $\Lambda^*/\Lambda$ , of cardinal  $|\det(\kappa_{ab})|$ .

- $h_{p^a, q_a}$  transforms under the Weil representation of  $\text{Mp}(2, \mathbb{Z})$  associated to the lattice  $\Lambda$ , e.g.

$$h_{p^a, q_a}(-1/\tau) = \sum_{q'_a \in \Lambda^*/\Lambda} \frac{e^{-2\pi i \kappa^{ab} q_a q'_b + \frac{i\pi}{4} (b_2(\mathfrak{x}) + 2\chi(\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{D}}) - 2)}}{\tau^{1 + \frac{1}{2} b_2(\mathfrak{x})} \sqrt{|\det(\kappa_{ab})|}} h_{p^a, q'_a}(\tau)$$

# D4-D2-D0 indices from elliptic genus

- Summing over all D2-brane charges and using spectral flow invariance, one gets

$$\begin{aligned} Z_p(\tau, \nu) &:= \sum_{q \in \Lambda, n} \bar{\Omega}_*(0, p^a, q_a, n) q^{n + \frac{1}{2} q_a \kappa^{ab} q_b} e^{2\pi i q_a \nu^a} \\ &= \sum_{q \in \Lambda^* / \Lambda} h_{p,q}(\tau) \Theta_q(\tau, \nu) \end{aligned}$$

where  $\Theta_q(\tau, \nu)$  is the (non-holomorphic) **Siegel theta series** for the indefinite lattice  $(\Lambda, \kappa_{ab})$ . S-duality then requires that  $Z_p$  should transform as a (skew-holomorphic) Jacobi form.

- The Jacobi form  $Z_p$  can be interpreted as the **elliptic genus** of the  $(0, 4)$  superconformal field theory obtained by wrapping an M5-brane on the divisor  $\mathcal{D}$  [*Maldacena Strominger Witten '98*].

# Mock modularity constraints on D4-D2-D0 indices

- For  $\gamma$  supported on a **reducible divisor**  $\mathcal{D} = \sum_{i=1}^{n \geq 2} \mathcal{D}_i$ , the generating series  $h_p$  (omitting  $q$  index for brevity) is no longer expected to be modular. Rather, it should be a vector-valued **mock modular form** of **depth  $n - 1$**  and same weight/multiplier system.

*Alexandrov Banerjee Manschot BP '16-19*

- There exists explicit **non-holomorphic theta series** such that

$$\widehat{h}_p(\tau, \bar{\tau}) = h_p(\tau) + \sum_{p=\sum_{i=1}^{n \geq 2} p_i} \Theta_n(\{p_i\}, \tau, \bar{\tau}) \prod_{i=1}^n h_{p_i}(\tau)$$

transforms as a modular form of weight  $-\frac{1}{2}b_2(\mathfrak{X}) - 1$ . Moreover the completion satisfies an explicit **holomorphic anomaly equation**,

$$\partial_{\bar{\tau}} \widehat{h}_p(\tau, \bar{\tau}) = \sum_{p=\sum_{i=1}^{n \geq 2} p_i} \widehat{\Theta}_n(\{p_i\}, \tau, \bar{\tau}) \prod_{i=1}^n \widehat{h}_{p_i}(\tau, \bar{\tau})$$

- $\Theta_n$  and  $\widehat{\Theta}_n$  belongs to the class of **indefinite theta series**

$$\vartheta_{\Phi, q}(\tau, \bar{\tau}) = \tau_2^{-\lambda} \sum_{k \in \Lambda + q} \Phi\left(\sqrt{2\tau_2}k\right) e^{-i\pi\tau Q(k)}$$

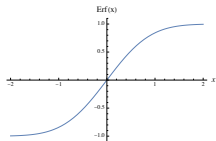
where  $(\Lambda, Q)$  is an even lattice of signature  $(r, d - r)$ ,  $q \in \Lambda^*/\Lambda$ ,  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ . The series converges if  $f(x) \equiv \Phi(x)e^{\frac{\pi}{2}Q(x)} \in L_1(\Lambda \otimes \mathbb{R})$ .

- Theorem (Vignéras, 1978):  $\{\vartheta_{\Phi, q}, q \in \Lambda^*/\Lambda\}$  transforms as a vector-valued modular form of weight  $(\lambda + \frac{d}{2}, 0)$  provided
  - $R(x)f, R(\partial_x)f \in L_2(\Lambda \otimes \mathbb{R})$  for any polynomial  $R(x)$  of degree  $\leq 2$
  - $[\partial_x^2 + 2\pi(x\partial_x - \lambda)]\Phi = 0$  [\*]
- The relevant lattice for  $\Theta_n$  and  $\widehat{\Theta}_n$  is  $\Lambda = H^2(\mathfrak{X}, \mathbb{Z})^{\oplus(n-1)}$ , with signature  $(r, d - r) = (n - 1)(1, b_2(\mathfrak{X}) - 1)$ .

# Indefinite theta series

- Example 1 (Siegel):  $\Phi = e^{\pi Q(x_+)}$ , where  $x_+$  is the projection of  $x$  on a fixed plane of dimension  $r$ , satisfies [\*] with  $\lambda = -n$ .  $\vartheta_\Phi$  is then the usual (non-holomorphic) **Siegel-Narain theta series**.
- Example 2 (Zwegers): In signature  $(1, d-1)$ , choose  $C, C'$  two vectors such that  $Q(C), Q(C'), (C, C') > 0$ , then

$$\widehat{\Phi}(x) = \operatorname{Erf} \left( \frac{(C, x)\sqrt{\pi}}{\sqrt{Q(C)}} \right) - \operatorname{Erf} \left( \frac{(C', x)\sqrt{\pi}}{\sqrt{Q(C')}} \right)$$



satisfies [\*] with  $\lambda = 0$ . As  $|x| \rightarrow \infty$ , or if  $Q(C) = Q(C') = 0$ ,

$$\widehat{\Phi}(x) \rightarrow \Phi(x) := \operatorname{sgn}(C, x) - \operatorname{sgn}(C', x)$$

- The theta series  $\Theta_2(\{p_1, p_2\})$ ,  $\widehat{\Theta}_2(\{p_1, p_2\})$  fall in this class. The generalization to  $n \geq 3$  involves **generalized error functions**  $\mathcal{E}_{n-1}(\{C_i\}, x)$ , obtained as a convolution of  $e^{\pi Q(x_+)}$  with  $\prod_{i=1}^{n-1} \operatorname{sgn}(C_i, x)$ . [*Alexandrov Banerjee Manschot BP 2016; Nazaroglu 2016*]

# Modularity for one-modulus compact CY

- Let  $\mathfrak{X}$  be a compact CY3 with  $H^2(\mathfrak{X}, \mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{Z}H$ . Can we compute rank 0 DT invariants  $\bar{\Omega}_*(0, N, q, n)$  and test (mock) modularity ?
- We focus on **smooth complete intersections in weighted projective space** (CICY),  $\mathfrak{X} = X_{\{d_i\}}(\{w_j\})$  with  $\sum d_i = \sum w_j$ . There are 13 such models, with Kähler moduli space  $\mathcal{M}_K = \mathbb{P}^1 \setminus \{0, 1, \infty\}$ , with a large volume point at  $z = 0$  and a conifold singularity at  $z = 1$ .
- The central charge  $Z_z(\gamma)$  is expressed in terms of hypergeometric functions. GV invariants  $\text{GV}_Q^{(g)}$  can be computed up to high genus by integrating the holomorphic anomaly equations satisfied by  $\Psi_{\text{top}}$  [BCOV'93, ..., Huang Klemm Quackenbush'06].
- I will concentrate on  $N = 1$ , and discuss  $N = 2$  if time permits.

*Gaiotto Strominger Yin '06-07, Collinucci Wyder '08, ...*

*Alexandrov Gaddam Manschot BP'22, Alexandrob Feyzbakhsh Klemm BP Schimannek'23*



# Modularity for one-modulus compact CY

$\mathfrak{X}$	$\chi_{\mathfrak{X}}$	$\kappa$	$c_2(T\mathfrak{X})$	$\chi(\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{D}})$	$n_1$	$C_1$
$X_5(1^5)$	-200	5	50	5	7	0
$X_6(1^4, 2)$	-204	3	42	4	4	0
$X_8(1^4, 4)$	-296	2	44	4	4	0
$X_{10}(1^3, 2, 5)$	-288	1	34	3	2	0
$X_{4,3}(1^5, 2)$	-156	6	48	5	9	0
$X_{4,4}(1^4, 2^2)$	-144	4	40	4	6	1
$X_{6,2}(1^5, 3)$	-256	4	52	5	7	0
$X_{6,4}(1^3, 2^2, 3)$	-156	2	32	3	3	0
$X_{6,6}(1^2, 2^2, 3^2)$	-120	1	22	2	1	0
$X_{3,3}(1^6)$	-144	9	54	6	14	1
$X_{4,2}(1^6)$	-176	8	56	6	15	1
$X_{3,2,2}(1^7)$	-144	12	60	7	21	1
$X_{2,2,2,2}(1^8)$	-128	16	64	8	33	3

# Abelian D4-D2-D0 invariants

- For  $N = 1$ , the generating series

$$h_{1,q} = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \Omega_*(0, 1, q, n) q^{n + \frac{q^2}{2\kappa} + \frac{q}{2} - \frac{\chi(\mathcal{D})}{24}}, \quad q \in \mathbb{Z}/\kappa\mathbb{Z}$$

should transform as a vector-valued modular form of weight  $-\frac{3}{2}$  in the Weil representation of  $\mathbb{Z}[\kappa]$  with  $\kappa = H^3$ .

- An overcomplete basis is given for  $\kappa$  even by

$$\frac{E_4^a E_6^b}{\eta^{4\kappa + c_2}} D^\ell(\vartheta_q^{(\kappa)}) \quad \text{with} \quad \vartheta_q^{(\kappa)} = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z} + \frac{q}{\kappa}} q^{\frac{1}{2}\kappa k^2}$$

where  $D = q\partial_q - \frac{w}{12}E_2$ , is the Serre derivative (alternatively, one could use Rankin-Cohen brackets).

- For  $\kappa$  odd, the same works with  $\vartheta_q^{(\kappa)} = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z} + \frac{q}{\kappa} + \frac{1}{2}} (-1)^{\kappa k} k^2 q^{\frac{1}{2}\kappa k^2}$ .

# A naive Ansatz for the polar terms

- $h_{1,q}$  is uniquely determined by the polar terms  $n < \frac{\chi(\mathcal{D})}{24} - \frac{q^2}{2\kappa} - \frac{q}{2}$ , but the dimension  $d_1 = n_1 - C_1$  of the space of modular forms may be smaller than the number  $n_1$  of polar terms !
- Physically, we expect that polar coefficients arise as **bound states of D6-brane and anti D6-branes** [Denef Moore'07]
- Earlier studies [Gaiotto Strominger Yin'06, Collinucci Wyder'08] suggest that only bound states of the form  $(D6 + qD2 + nD0, \overline{D6(-1)})$  contribute to polar coeffs:

$$\Omega(0, 1, q, n) = (-1)^{\chi(\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{D}}) - q - n + 1} (\chi(\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{D}}) - q - n) DT(q, n)$$

where  $DT(q, n)$  counts **ideal sheaves** with  $\text{ch}_2 = q$  and  $\text{ch}_3 = n$   
[Alexandrov Gaddam Manschot BP'22]

# GV/DT/PT relation

- For a single D6-brane, the DT-invariant  $DT(q, n) = \Omega(1, 0, q, n)$  at large volume can be computed via the **GV/DT relation**

$$\sum_{Q, n} DT(Q, n) q^n v^Q = M(-q)^{\chi_X} \prod_{Q, g, \ell} \left(1 - (-q)^{g-\ell-1} v^Q\right)^{(-1)^{g+\ell} \binom{2g-2}{\ell}} \text{GV}_Q^{(g)}$$

where  $M(q) = \prod_{n \geq 1} (1 - q^n)^{-n}$  is the Mac-Mahon function.

*Maulik Nekrasov Okounkov Pandharipande'06*

- Pandharipande-Thomas invariants  $PT(Q, n)$  counting **stable pairs**  $E = (\mathcal{O}_X \xrightarrow{S} F)$  with  $[F] = Q$  and  $\chi(F) = n$  satisfy a similar relation without the Mac-Mahon factor  $M(-q)^{\chi_X}$ .
- The **topological string partition function** is given by

$$\Psi_{\text{top}}(z, \lambda) = M(-q)^{-\chi_X/2} Z_{DT}, \quad q = e^{i\lambda}, v = e^{2\pi iz/\lambda}$$

can be computed by the **direct integration method**.

# Modular predictions for D4-D2-D0 indices (naive)

- Remarkably, there exists a  $vv$  modular form with integer Fourier coefficients matching these polar terms for almost all CICY (except  $X_{4,2}$ ,  $X_{3,2,2}$ ,  $X_{2,2,2,2}$ ), reproducing earlier results [*Gaiotto Strominger Yin*] for  $X_5$ ,  $X_6$ ,  $X_8$ ,  $X_{10}$  and  $X_{3,3}$ .

- $X_5 = \mathbb{P}^4[5]$ :

$$h_{1,0} = q^{-\frac{55}{24}} \left( \underline{5 - 800q + 58500q^2 + 5817125q^3 + \dots} \right)$$

$$h_{1,\pm 1} = q^{-\frac{55}{24} + \frac{3}{5}} \left( \underline{0 + 8625q - 1138500q^2 + 3777474000q^3 + \dots} \right)$$

$$h_{1,\pm 2} = q^{-\frac{55}{24} + \frac{2}{5}} \left( \underline{0 + 0q - 1218500q^2 + 441969250q^3 + \dots} \right)$$

- $X_{10} = \mathbb{P}_{5,2,1,1,1}^4[10]$ :

$$h_{1,0} \stackrel{?}{=} \frac{541E_4^4 + 1187E_4E_6^2}{576\eta^{35}} = q^{-\frac{35}{24}} \left( \underline{3 - 576q + 271704q^2 + \dots} \right)$$

# Rank 0 DT invariants from GV invariants

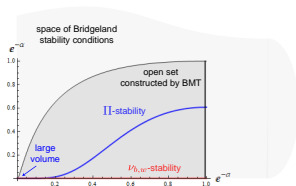
- Our Ansatz for polar terms was an educated guess. Fortunately, recent progress in Donaldson-Thomas theory allows to compute D4-D2-D0 indices rigorously, and compare with modular predictions.

*Bayer Macri Toda'11; Toda'11; Feyzbakhsh Thomas'20-22*

- The key idea is to consider a family of weak stability conditions on the boundary of  $\text{Stab } \mathcal{C}$ , called **tilt stability**, with central charge

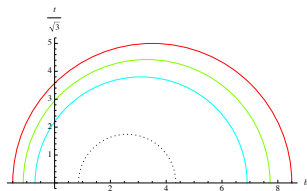
$$Z_{b,t}(E) = \frac{i}{6} t^3 \text{ch}_0(E) - \frac{1}{2} t^2 \text{ch}_1^b(E) - i t \text{ch}_2^b(E) + \mathbf{0} \text{ch}_3^b(E)$$

$$\text{with } \text{ch}_k^b(E) = \int_{\mathbb{X}} H^{3-k} e^{-bH} \text{ch}(E).$$



# Rank 0 DT invariants from GV invariants

- Tilt stability agrees with physical stability at large volume, but the chamber structure is much simpler: walls are **nested half-circles** in the Poincaré upper half-plane spanned by  $z = b + i\frac{t}{\sqrt{3}}$ .



- Importantly, for any tilt-semistable object  $E$  there is a **conjectural inequality** on Chern classes  $C_i := \int_{\mathfrak{X}} \text{ch}_i(E) \cdot H^{3-i}$  [Bayer Macri Toda'11; Bayer Macri Stellari'16],

$$(C_1^2 - 2C_0C_2)\left(\frac{1}{2}b^2 + \frac{1}{6}t^2\right) + (3C_0C_3 - C_1C_2)b + (2C_2^2 - 3C_1C_3) \geq 0$$

# Rank 0 DT invariants from GV invariants

- The BMT inequality is known to hold for  $X_5, X_6, X_8, X_{4,2}$  [Li'19, Koseki'20], and plays a key role in the construction of Bridgeland stability conditions.
- The BMT inequality provides an empty chamber whenever the discriminant is positive. This happens exactly when single centered black hole solutions are ruled out !

$$8C_0C_2^3 + 6C_1^3C_3 + 9C_0^2C_3^2 - 3C_1^2C_2^2 - 18C_0C_1C_2C_3 \geq 0$$
$$\updownarrow$$
$$\frac{8}{9\kappa}p_0q_1^3 - \frac{2}{3}\kappa q_0(p^1)^3 - (p^0q_0)^2 + \frac{1}{3}(p^1q_1)^2 - 2p^0p^1q_0q_1 \leq 0$$

- By studying wall-crossing between the empty chamber provided by BMT bound and large volume, [Feyzbakhsh Thomas] show that D4-D2-D0 indices can be computed from rank 1 DT or PT invariants, which are in turn related to GV invariants.



- In particular for  $(q, n)$  large enough, the PT invariant counting tilt-stable objects of class  $(-1, 0, q, n)$  is given by [Feyzbakhsh'22]

$$PT(q, n) = (-1)^{\langle \overline{D6(1)}, \gamma \rangle + 1} \langle \overline{D6(1)}, \gamma \rangle \Omega(\gamma)$$

with  $\overline{D6(1)} := \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{A}^1}(H)[1]$  and  $\gamma = (0, 1, q, n)$ . Using spectral flow invariance, one finds for suitably large  $m \geq m_0(q, n)$ ,

$$\boxed{\Omega(\gamma) = \frac{(-1)^{\langle \overline{D6(1-m)}, \gamma \rangle + 1} PT(q', n')}{\langle \overline{D6(1-m)}, \gamma \rangle}} \quad \begin{cases} q' = q + \kappa m \\ n' = n - mq - \frac{\kappa}{2} m(m+1) \end{cases}$$

# Modular predictions for D4-D2-D0 (rigorous)

- Using an extension of this idea, we have computed most of the polar terms, and many non-polar ones, for all models except  $X_{3,2,2}$ ,  $X_{2,2,2,2}$ . In all cases, **modularity holds with flying colors** !

*Alexandrov, Feyzbakhsh, Klemm, BP, Schimannek'23*

- E.g. for  $X_5$ :

$$h_{1,0} = q^{-\frac{55}{24}} \left( \underline{5 - 800q + 58500q^2} + 5817125q^3 + 75474060100q^4 \right. \\ \left. + 28096675153255q^5 + 3756542229485475q^6 \right. \\ \left. + 277591744202815875q^7 + 13610985014709888750q^8 + \dots \right),$$

$$h_{1,\pm 1} = q^{-\frac{55}{24} + \frac{3}{5}} \left( \underline{0 + 8625q} - 1138500q^2 + 3777474000q^3 \right. \\ \left. + 3102750380125q^4 + 577727215123000q^5 + \dots \right)$$

$$h_{1,\pm 2} = q^{-\frac{55}{24} + \frac{2}{5}} \left( \underline{0 + 0q} - 1218500q^2 + 441969250q^3 + 953712511250q^4 \right. \\ \left. + 217571250023750q^5 + 22258695264509625q^6 + \dots \right)$$

# Modular predictions for D4-D2-D0 (rigorous)

- We find that **our educated guess is correct** for  $X_5, X_6, X_8, X_{3,3}, X_{4,4}, X_{6,6}$  😊, but fails for  $X_{10}, X_{6,2}, X_{6,4}, X_{4,3}$  😞
- E.g. for  $X_{10}$ ,

$$h_{1,0} = \frac{203E_4^4 + 445E_4E_6^2}{216\eta^{35}} = q^{-\frac{35}{24}} \left( \underline{3 - 575q} + 271955q^2 + \dots \right)$$

rather than  $\underline{3 - 576q} + \dots$ , as anticipated by *[van Herck Wyder'09]*.

- Note that *[Toda'13, Feyzbakhsh'22]* also prove a version of our  $D6 - \overline{D6}$  ansatz, but under very restrictive conditions which are only satisfied by the most polar terms.

- Let us consider D4-D2-D0 indices with  $N = 2$  units of D4-brane charge. In that case,  $\{h_{2,q}, q \in \mathbb{Z}/(2\kappa\mathbb{Z})\}$  should transform as a **vv mock modular form** with modular completion

$$\widehat{h}_{2,q}(\tau, \bar{\tau}) = h_{2,q}(\tau) + \sum_{q_1, q_2=0}^{\kappa-1} \delta_{q_1+q_2-q}^{(\kappa)} \Theta_{q_2-q_1+\kappa}^{(\kappa)} h_{1,q_1} h_{1,q_2}$$

where

$$\Theta_q^{(\kappa)} = \frac{(-1)^q}{8\pi} \sum_{k \in 2\kappa\mathbb{Z}+q} |k| \beta\left(\frac{\tau_2 k^2}{\kappa}\right) e^{-\frac{\pi i \tau}{2\kappa} k^2},$$

and  $\beta(x^2) = 2|x|^{-1} e^{-\pi x^2} - 2\pi \text{Erfc}(\sqrt{\pi}|x|)$ .

- For  $\kappa = 1$ , the series  $\Theta_q^{(1)}$  is the one appearing in the modular completion of **rank 2 Vafa-Witten invariants on  $\mathbb{P}^2$**  !

# Mock modularity for non-Abelian D4-D2-D0 indices

- The series  $\Theta_q^{(\kappa)}$  is convergent but **not** modular invariant. **Suppose there exists a holomorphic function  $g_q^{(\kappa)}$  such that  $\Theta_q^{(\kappa)} + g_q^{(\kappa)}$  transforms as a vv modular form.** Then

$$\tilde{h}_{2,q}(\tau, \bar{\tau}) = h_{2,q}(\tau) - \sum_{q_1, q_2=0}^{\kappa-1} \delta_{q_1+q_2-q}^{(\kappa)} g_{q_2-q_1+\kappa}^{(\kappa)} h_{1,q_1} h_{1,q_2}$$

will be an ordinary weak holomorphic vv modular form, hence uniquely determined by its polar part.

- To construct  $g_q^{(\kappa)}$ , notice that for  $\kappa$  prime,  $\Theta_q^{(\kappa)}$  is obtained from  $\Theta_q^{(1)}$  by acting with the **Hecke-type operator** [Bouchard Creutzig Diaconescu Doran Quigley Sheshmani'16]

$$(\mathcal{T}_\kappa[\phi])_q(\tau) = \frac{1}{\kappa} \sum_{\substack{a,d>0 \\ ad=\kappa}} \left(\frac{\kappa}{d}\right)^{w+\frac{1}{2}} \delta_\kappa(q, d) \sum_{b=0}^{d-1} e^{-\pi i \frac{b}{a} q^2} \phi_{dq} \left(\frac{a\tau+b}{d}\right),$$

with  $q \in \Lambda^*/\Lambda(\kappa)$  and  $\delta_\kappa(q, d) = 1$  if  $q \in \Lambda^*/\Lambda(d)$  and 0 otherwise.

# Mock modularity for non-Abelian D4-D2-D0 indices

- For  $\kappa = 1$ , a candidate for  $g_q^{(1)}$  is well-known: the generating series of Hurwitz class numbers [Hirzebruch Zagier 1973]

$$H_0(\tau) = -\frac{1}{12} + \frac{1}{2}q + q^2 + \frac{4}{3}q^3 + \frac{3}{2}q^4 + \dots$$
$$H_1(\tau) = q^{\frac{3}{4}} \left( \frac{1}{3} + q + q^2 + 2q^3 + q^4 + \dots \right)$$

For any  $\kappa$ , we can thus choose  $g_q^{(\kappa)} = \mathcal{T}_\kappa(H)_q$ .

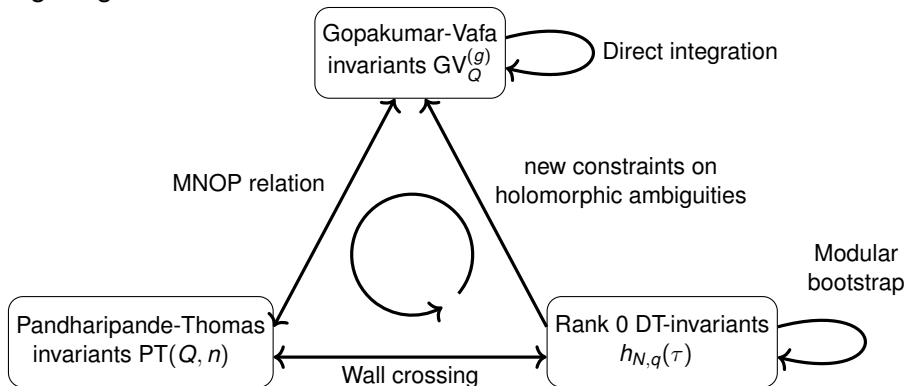
- The vv modular form  $\tilde{h}_{2,q}$  is uniquely specified by its polar terms but those must satisfy constraints for such a form to exist, and integrality is not guaranteed !
- Explicit formulae by S. Feyzbakhsh in principle allow to compute polar terms from DT/PT invariants, hence GV invariants, but the required degree and genus seem prohibitive so far.

# Mock modularity for non-Abelian D4-D2-D0 indices

$\mathfrak{X}$	$\chi_{\mathfrak{X}}$	$\kappa$	$c_2$	$\chi(\mathcal{O}_{2D})$	$n_2$	$C_2$
$X_5(1^5)$	-200	5	50	15	36	1
$X_6(1^4, 2)$	-204	3	42	11	19	1
$X_8(1^4, 4)$	-296	2	44	10	14	1
$X_{10}(1^3, 2, 5)$	-288	1	34	7	7	0
$X_{4,3}(1^5, 2)$	-156	6	48	16	42	0
$X_{4,4}(1^4, 2^2)$	-144	4	40	12	25	1
$X_{6,2}(1^5, 3)$	-256	4	52	14	30	1
$X_{6,4}(1^3, 2^2, 3)$	-156	2	32	8	11	1
$X_{6,6}(1^2, 2^2, 3^2)$	-120	1	5	2	5	0
$X_{3,3}(1^6)$	-144	9	54	21	78	3
$X_{4,2}(1^6)$	-176	8	56	20	69	3
$X_{3,2,2}(1^7)$	-144	12	60	26	117	0
$X_{2,2,2,2}(1^8)$	-128	16	64	32	185	4

# Quantum geometry from stability and modularity

Conversely, we can use our knowledge of Abelian D4-D2-D0 invariants to compute GV invariants and push the direct integration method to higher genus !



*Alexandrov Feyzbakhsh Klemm BP Schimannek'23*



# Quantum geometry from stability and modularity

$\mathfrak{X}$	$\chi_{\mathfrak{X}}$	$\kappa$	type	$\mathcal{G}_{\text{integ}}$	$\mathcal{G}_{\text{mod}}$	$\mathcal{G}_{\text{avail}}$
$X_5(1^5)$	-200	5	$F$	53	69	60
$X_6(1^4, 2)$	-204	3	$F$	48	63	48
$X_8(1^4, 4)$	-296	2	$F$	60	80	48
$X_{10}(1^3, 2, 5)$	-288	1	$F$	50	65	47
$X_{4,3}(1^5, 2)$	-156	6	$F$	20	24	24
$X_{6,4}(1^3, 2^2, 3)$	-156	2	$F$	14	17	17
$X_{6,6}(1^2, 2^2, 3^2)$	-120	1	$K$	18	21	21
$X_{4,4}(1^4, 2^2)$	-144	4	$K$	26	34	34
$X_{3,3}(1^6)$	-144	9	$K$	29	33	33
$X_{4,2}(1^6)$	-176	8	$C$	50	64	50
$X_{6,2}(1^5, 3)$	-256	4	$C$	63	78	42

# Conclusion

- The existence of an isometric action of S-duality on the vector-multiplet moduli space in  $D = 3$ , leads to strong modularity constraints on **rank 0 DT invariants** in the large volume limit.
- For  $p = \sum_{i=1}^n p_i$  the sum of  $n$  irreducible divisors, the generating function  $h_p$  is a **mock modular form of depth  $n - 1$  with an explicit shadow**, thus it is uniquely determined by its polar coefficients.
- While modularity is clear physically, its mathematical origin is mysterious. For K3-fibered threefolds, it follows from Noether-Lefschetz theory [*Bouchard Creutzig Diaconescu Doran Quigley Sheshmani'16*].
- Using modularity and GV/DT/PT relations, we can not only compute D4D2-D0 indices, but also push  $\Psi_{\text{top}}$  to higher genus !
- Mock modularity affects the growth of Fourier coefficients, hence the microscopic entropy of supersymmetric black holes. It should have an imprint on the macroscopic side as well...

Thanks for your attention !

