Attractor indices, brane tilings and crystals

Boris Pioline





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based on arXiv:2004.14466 with Guillaume Beaujard, Jan Manschot and arXiv:2012.14358 with Sergey Mozgovoy

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- The net number of BPS states with fixed electro-magnetic charge γ , called BPS index $\Omega(\gamma)$, is known exactly in most string backgrounds with $\mathcal{N} \geq 4$ supersymmetry. This is not yet so in $\mathcal{N} = 2$ string vacua such as type IIA on a generic CY3.

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- The net number of BPS states with fixed electro-magnetic charge γ, called BPS index Ω(γ), is known exactly in most string backgrounds with N ≥ 4 supersymmetry. This is not yet so in N = 2 string vacua such as type IIA on a generic CY3.
- Part of the reason is that Ω(γ, z) depends on the moduli z in an intricate way, due to wall-crossing phenomena associated to BPS bound states with any number of constituents. The moduli space itself receives quantum corrections, unlike in N ≥ 4.

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On the math side, Ω(γ, z) are the generalized Donaldson-Thomas invariants of the category D(X) of coherent sheaves on X.
 Roughly, Ω(γ, z) is the Euler number of the moduli space of stable sheaves with Chern character γ ∈ H^{even}(X), but details are subtle.

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 For D6-D2-D0 bound states for single unit of D6-brane charge at large volume, Ω(γ, z) are the standard Donaldson-Thomas invariants, related to higher-genus GV invariants.

Thomas' 99; Maulik Nekrasov Okounkov Panharipande '04

D4-D2-D0 black holes can be realized by wrapping an M5 on a compact 4-cycle P ⊂ X, hence are described by a 2D superconformal field theory. The generating series of BPS indices (=VW invariants) is expected to be modular under SL(2, Z). The central charge of the SCFT predicts the correct entropy at large charge, but exact indices are known only in a handful of cases.

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 Alternatively, by reducing along T², D4-D2-D0 branes on a rigid 4-cycle P are described by Vafa-Witten theory on P. Unless the divisor P is irreducible, the generating series of VW invariants is expected to be a (vector-valued) mock modular form, with a precise modular anomaly.

Minahan Nemeschansky Vafa Warner'98

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Alexandrov Banerjee Manschot BP'16-19; Dabholkar Putrov Witten '20

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- The nodes of *Q* corresponds to a basis of absolutely stable branes on *X*, whose bound states generate the BPS spectrum.
 For *X* = C³/Γ, these are the fractional branes; for *X* = *K*_S, these are elements of an exceptional collection on *S*.

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 The dimension vector *d* and stability parameters ζ can be deduced from the Chern vector γ and CY moduli *z*.

Since the quiver has oriented loops, the indices Ω(γ, z) = Ω(d, ζ) are in general difficult to compute. We claim that quivers associated to toric CY3 are special: the attractor indices

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 More generally, for toric CY3 singularities, we claim that Ω_{*}(d) = 0 unless d_a = δ_{a,ℓ} or d lies in (a subspace of) the kernel of the Dirac pairing (i.e. ⟨d, d'⟩ = 0 for all d').

If correct, this conjecture allows to compute the BPS index Ω(γ, z) for any γ, z by using the flow tree formula, or one of its variants.

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• If correct, this conjecture allows to compute the BPS index $\Omega(\gamma, z)$ for any γ , z by using the flow tree formula, or one of its variants.

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• The fact that $\Omega_{\star}(\gamma) = \mathcal{O}(1)$ (and apparently $\Omega_{s}^{L^{2}}(\gamma) = 0$!) is disappointing but consistent with gravity being decoupled.

The attractor flow tree formula for quivers

- 2 Toric CY3 and brane tilings
- Unframed indices and VW invariants
- Framed indices and molten crystals
- 5 Conclusion

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• Consider a SUSY quantum mechanics in 0 + 1 dimensions, obtained by reducing $\mathcal{N} = 1$ gauge theory in 3 + 1 dimension, with matter content encoded in a quiver: each node $\ell = 1...K$ represents a $U(d_{\ell})$ vector multiplet, each arrow from *k* to ℓ represents a chiral multiplet $\Phi_{k,\ell}^{\alpha}$ in (d_{ℓ}, \bar{d}_k) representation of $U(d_{\ell}) \times U(d_k)$. [Denef '02]

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- The ranks $\{d_{\ell}\}$ are encoded in a dimension vector $\gamma = \sum d_{\ell}\gamma_{\ell}$ in a lattice Γ , endowed with an antisymmetric Dirac-Schwinger pairing $\langle \gamma, \gamma' \rangle = \sum \gamma_{k\ell} d_k d'_{\ell}$ where $\gamma_{k\ell}$ is the skew-adjacency matrix (the number of arrows from node *k* to node ℓ counted with sign).

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- In addition, one must specify Fayet-Iliopoulos terms ζ_ℓ ∈ ℝ and (in presence of closed oriented loops) a superpotential W(Φ).

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 On the Higgs branch, the moduli space of classical SUSY vacua *M_H*(γ, ζ) is the solutions of the F-term and D-term equations modulo set gauge equivalence,

$$\forall \ell : \sum_{\gamma_{\ell k} > 0} \Phi_{\ell k}^* T^a \Phi_{\ell k} - \sum_{\gamma_{k \ell} > 0} \Phi_{k \ell}^* T^a \Phi_{k \ell} = \zeta_{\ell} \operatorname{Tr}(T^a)$$
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- Equivalently, M_H is the moduli space of stable quiver representations with potential, an open subspace of solutions of F-term equations modulo the complexified gauge group.
- 'stable' means that $\mu(\gamma') < \mu(\gamma)$ for any proper subrepresentation with dimension vector $\gamma' < \gamma$, where $\mu(\gamma') = (\sum_{\ell} \zeta_{\ell} d'_{\ell}) / \sum d'_{\ell}$ is the slope. [King'94]

 BPS states correspond to Dolbeault cohomology classes of degree (p, q) on in M_H(γ, ζ), counted by the Hodge polynomial

$$\Omega(\gamma, \mathbf{y}, t, \zeta) = \sum_{p,q=0}^{2d} h_{p,q}(\mathcal{M}_{H}(\gamma, \zeta)) (-\mathbf{y})^{p+q-d} t^{p-q}$$

The fugacity *y* keeps track of angular momentum J_3^L , while *t* is conjugate to J_3^R inside R-symmetry group $SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R$.

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 The refined BPS index Ω(γ, y, ζ) = Ω(γ, y, 1/y, ζ) (the χ_{y²}-genus). When Dolbeault cohomology is supported in degree p = q, it coincides with the Poincaré polynomial. In either case, it reduces to the Euler number in the unrefined limit y → 1.

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- Ω(γ, y) also counts BPS states on the Coulomb branch, but that interpretation is subtle due to scaling solutions.
Primitive wall-crossing

 The DT invariants Ω(γ, y, ζ) for γ ∈ Span(γ₁, γ₂) jump on walls where μ(γ₁) = μ(γ₂). For primitive dimension vectors γ_{1,2} with Dirac-Schwinger pairing γ₁₂ = ⟨γ₁, γ₂⟩,

$$\Delta\Omega(\gamma_1+\gamma_2,y)=(-1)^{\gamma_{12}}\frac{y^{\gamma_{12}}-y^{-\gamma_{12}}}{y-1/y}\,\Omega(\gamma_1,y)\Omega(\gamma_2,y)$$

Physically, a two-centered bound state with spin degeneracy $2j + 1 = |\gamma_{12}|$ appears/disappears. [Denef Moore '07]

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 For more general charges, it is useful to introduce the rational invariants

$$\bar{\Omega}(\gamma, \mathbf{y}) = \sum_{m|\gamma} \frac{1}{m} \frac{\mathbf{y} - 1/\mathbf{y}}{\mathbf{y}^m - 1/\mathbf{y}^m} \Omega(\gamma/m, \mathbf{y}^m)$$

General wall-crossing

• The discontinuity across the hyperplane where $\mu(\gamma_1) = \mu(\gamma_2)$ is then given by a universal wall-crossing formula.

Konsevitch Soibelman'08, Joyce Song'08

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On physical grounds, we expect and get

$$\bar{\Omega}(\gamma, \mathbf{y}, \zeta_{+}) = \sum_{\gamma = \sum \alpha_{i}} \frac{g_{\mathrm{WC}}(\{\alpha_{i}\}, \mathbf{y})}{|\mathrm{Aut}(\{\alpha_{i}\})|} \prod_{i} \bar{\Omega}(\alpha_{i}, \mathbf{y}, \zeta_{-})$$

where $|\operatorname{Aut}(\{\alpha_i\})|$ is a Boltzmann symmetry factor, and $g_{WC}(\{\alpha_i\}, y)$ is the index for Abelian quiver quantum mechanics with one node v_i for each α_i , and $\langle \alpha_i, \alpha_j \rangle$ arrows from v_i to v_j . This is computable using localisation on the Coulomb branch, or using Reineke's formula on the Higgs branch.

Reineke '02; Manschot BP Sen '10

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Attractor flow and attractor indices

 For spherically symmetric black holes in N = 2 supergravity, the moduli flow from z_∞ to z_γ determined by the attractor mechanism:



$$\begin{array}{rcl} \mathrm{Im}[\boldsymbol{e}^{-\mathrm{i}\alpha}\boldsymbol{X}^{\Lambda}] &=& \boldsymbol{q}^{\Lambda} \\ \mathrm{Im}[\boldsymbol{e}^{-\mathrm{i}\alpha}\boldsymbol{F}_{\Lambda}] &=& \boldsymbol{p}_{\Lambda} \\ \Rightarrow \forall \gamma' \ \mathrm{Im}[\boldsymbol{e}^{-\mathrm{i}\alpha}\boldsymbol{Z}_{\gamma'}] &=& -\langle \gamma', \gamma \rangle \end{array}$$

Ferrara Kallosh Strominger'95

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• Similarly, in quiver quantum mechanics there is a particular choice of stability parameters where 2-center bound states are ruled out,

$$\zeta^{\star}_{k}(\gamma) = -\sum_{\ell} \gamma_{k\ell} d^{\ell} = -\langle \gamma_{k}, \gamma
angle$$

known as attractor point or self-stability [Manschot BP Sen '13, unpublished]

• The full spectrum can be constructed as bound states of these attractor BPS states, labelled by attractor flow trees:



Denef '00; Denef Greene Raugas '01; Denef Moore'07; Manschot '10

Wall-crossing and attractor indices

The flow tree formula allows to express Ω
 ^(γ, y, ζ) in terms of the attractor indices Ω
 ^(αi, y) := Ω
 ^{(αi, y, ζ*(αi))}

$$\bar{\Omega}(\gamma, \mathbf{y}, \zeta) = \sum_{\gamma = \sum \alpha_i} \frac{\mathbf{g}_{tr}(\{\alpha_i\}, \mathbf{y}, \zeta)}{|\operatorname{Aut}(\{\alpha_i\})|} \prod_i \bar{\Omega}_*(\alpha_i, \mathbf{y})$$

Manschot'10, Alexandrov BP '18

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where

$$g_{tr}(\{\alpha_i\}, y, \zeta) = \sum_{T} \prod_{v \in V_T} (-1)^{\gamma_{LR}} \frac{y^{\gamma_{LR}} - y^{-\gamma_{LR}}}{y - 1/y}$$

Here *T* runs over all possible stable flow trees *T* ending on the leaves $\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_n$, *v* runs over all vertices and $\gamma_{LR} = \langle \gamma_{L(v)}, \gamma_{R(v)} \rangle$.

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Manschot'10, Alexandrov BP '18

where

$$g_{tr}(\{\alpha_i\}, y, \zeta) = \sum_{T} \prod_{v \in V_T} (-1)^{\gamma_{LR}} \frac{y^{\gamma_{LR}} - y^{-\gamma_{LR}}}{y - 1/y}$$

Here *T* runs over all possible stable flow trees *T* ending on the leaves $\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_n$, *v* runs over all vertices and $\gamma_{LR} = \langle \gamma_{L(v)}, \gamma_{R(v)} \rangle$.

 The flow tree formula is combinatorial, and does not require integrating the attractor flow ! It is now a mathematical theorem.

Mozgovoy '20, Argüz Bousseau '21

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The attractor flow tree formula for quivers

2 Toric CY3 and brane tilings

3 Unframed indices and VW invariants

4 Framed indices and molten crystals

5 Conclusion

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Toric CY3 are non-compact CY three-folds which admit an action of (ℂ[×])³ having a dense orbit. The category of coherent sheaves D(X) is isomorphic to the category of representations D(Q, W) of a quiver with superpotential.

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- The quiver (*Q*, *W*) are conveniently summarized by a brane tiling, i.e. a bipartite graph embedded in a two-torus. Tiles correspond to gauge groups, edges to chiral fields, and black/white vertices to monomials in the superpotential. The dual graph is a periodic quiver \tilde{Q} covering *Q*.

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- Bound states with a D6-brane or a non-compact D4 are described by a framed quiver (Q_∞, W_∞) with an extra ungauged node and extra arrows ∞ → ℓ or ℓ → ∞.

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- Bound states with a D6-brane or a non-compact D4 are described by a framed quiver (Q_∞, W_∞) with an extra ungauged node and extra arrows ∞ → ℓ or ℓ → ∞.
- The same toric CY3 may be described by different tilings/quivers, related by Seiberg duality.

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Example: $\mathbb{C}^3/\mathbb{Z}_3 \sim K_{\mathbb{P}^2}$



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The attractor flow tree formula for quivers

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Quivers from exceptional collections

For local surfaces X = K_S, a basis of branes on D(X) (aka tilting sequence) can be constructed from an exceptional collection on S, i.e. an ordered sequence of (virtual) sheaves (E₁,..., E_r) s.t.

$$\begin{array}{rcl} \mathsf{Hom}(E_k,E_k) &=& \mathbb{C} \;, \quad \mathsf{Ext}^m_S(E_k,E_k) & \forall m > 0 \\ \mathsf{Ext}^m_S(E_k,E_\ell) &=& 0 & \forall (m \ge 0,\; 1 \le \ell < k \le r) \end{array}$$

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• There are two types of arrows $k \to \ell$: forward arrows from $\text{Ext}^1(E_k, E_\ell)$ with $k < \ell$ and backward arrows from $\text{Ext}^2(E_\ell, E_k)$ with $k > \ell$. The net number is computable from the Euler form

$$\chi(E,E') = \sum_{m \ge 0} (-1)^m \operatorname{dim} \operatorname{Ext}_{\mathcal{S}}^m(E,E') = \int_{\mathcal{S}} \operatorname{ch}(E^*) \operatorname{ch}(E') \operatorname{Td}(\mathcal{S})$$

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• The dimension vector *d* and FI parameters ζ can be related to the Chern vector γ and moduli *z* using $\gamma = \sum N_{\ell} \gamma_{\ell}, \zeta_{\ell} = \text{Im}[Z_{\gamma} \overline{Z_{\gamma_{\ell}}}].$



Dimension vector: (\propto (1, 1, 1) for D0-branes)

 $(N_1, N_2, N_3) = -\left(\frac{3}{2}c_1 + ch_2 + rk, \frac{1}{2}c_1 + ch_2, -\frac{1}{2}c_1 + ch_2\right)$

For canonical polarization $J = \rho c_1(S)$ with $\rho \gg 1$,

$$\zeta = 3\rho \left(N_2 - N_3, N_3 - N_1, N_1 - N_2 \right) + \left(-\frac{N_2 + N_3}{2}, \frac{N_1 + 3N_3}{2}, \frac{N_1 - 3N_2}{2} \right)$$

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• For any $X = K_S$, the canonical chamber $J = \rho c_1(S)$ in the large volume limit translates into the anti-attractor chamber,

$$\zeta_{k} = \rho \sum_{\ell} \gamma_{k\ell} \, N_{\ell} + \mathcal{O}(1)$$

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For any X = K_S, the canonical chamber J = ρ c₁(S) in the large volume limit translates into the anti-attractor chamber,

$$\zeta_{k} = \rho \sum_{k} \gamma_{k\ell} N_{\ell} + \mathcal{O}(1)$$

In this chamber, the backward arrows Φ ∈ *I* vanish, and one is left with the forward arrows (or Beilinson quiver Q' = Q*I*), subject to the relations {∂W/∂Φ = 0, Φ ∈ *I*}.

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- The dimension of the moduli space of stable sheaves coincides with the dimension of the moduli space of stable representations,

$$d_{\mathbb{C}} = \sum_{a \notin I} N_k N_\ell - \sum_{a \in I} N_k N_\ell - \sum N_\ell^2 + 1 = 1 - \chi(E, E)$$

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$$d_{\mathbb{C}} = \sum_{a \notin I} N_k N_\ell - \sum_{a \in I} N_k N_\ell - \sum_{k \in I} N_k^2 + 1 = 1 - \chi(E, E)$$

In contrast, in the attractor chamber ζ_k = −ρ Σ_ℓ γ_{kℓ}N_ℓ, the expected dimension is always negative, unless the dimension vector is one of the basis vectors γ_ℓ, or lies in the kernel of ⟨−, −⟩.



 $N_{1} = -\left(\frac{3}{2}c_{1} + ch_{2} + rk\right)$ $N_{2} = -\left(\frac{1}{2}c_{1} + ch_{2}\right)$ $N_{3} = -\left(-\frac{1}{2}c_{1} + ch_{2}\right)$

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• In canonical (anti-attractor chamber), the expected dimension is positive at large instanton number $c_2 \sim -ch_2$,

$$d_{\mathbb{C}} = 3(N_1N_2 + N_2N_3 - N_3N_1) - N_1^2 - N_2^2 - N_3^2 + 1$$

= $c_1^2 - 2 \operatorname{rk} \operatorname{ch}_2 - \operatorname{rk}^2 + 1$

This requires $\zeta_1 \ge 0, \zeta_3 \le 0$ hence $- \mathsf{rk} \le c_1 \le 0$.

Attractor invariants for $K_{\mathbb{P}^2}$

In attractor chamber ζ^{*} = 3 (N₂ − N₃, N₃ − N₁, N₁ − N₂), the expected dimension is almost always negative:

$$\begin{aligned} d^{\star}_{\mathbb{C}} &= 1 - \mathcal{Q}(\gamma) + \begin{cases} \frac{2}{3}N_3\zeta_3^{\star} - \frac{2}{3}N_1\zeta_1^{\star} & \zeta_1^{\star} \ge 0, \zeta_3^{\star} \le 0 \quad (\Phi_{31} = 0) \\ \frac{2}{3}N_1\zeta_1^{\star} - \frac{2}{3}N_2\zeta_2^{\star} & \zeta_2^{\star} \ge 0, \zeta_1^{\star} \le 0 \quad (\Phi_{12} = 0) \\ \frac{2}{3}N_2\zeta_2^{\star} - \frac{2}{3}N_3\zeta_3^{\star} & \zeta_3^{\star} \ge 0, \zeta_2^{\star} \le 0 \quad (\Phi_{23} = 0) \\ \mathcal{Q}(\gamma) &= \frac{1}{2}(N_1 - N_2)^2 + \frac{1}{2}(N_2 - N_3)^2 + \frac{1}{2}(N_3 - N_1)^2 \\ \text{hence } d^{\star}_{\mathbb{C}} < 0 \text{ unless } \gamma \in \{(1, 0, 0), (0, 1, 0), (0, 0, 1), (n, n, n)\}. \end{aligned}$$

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hence $d_{\mathbb{C}}^* < 0$ unless $\gamma \in \{(1, 0, 0), (0, 1, 0), (0, 0, 1), (n, n, n)\}.$

• We conjecture that $\Omega_{\star}(\gamma) = 0$ except in those cases. We set $\Omega_{\star}(1,0,0) = \Omega_{\star}(0,1,0) = \Omega_{\star}(0,0,1) = 1$, The index $\Omega_{\star}(n,n,n)$, corresponding to *n* D0-branes will be specified later.

VW invariants on \mathbb{P}^2

 Using the flow tree formula, and assuming the conjecture, we find that the index in canonical chamber agrees with VW invariants on P² previously computed using blow-up/wall-crossing formulae !

Goettsche'90, Klyachko'91, Yoshioka'94, Manschot'11-14

[<i>N</i> ; <i>c</i> ₁ ; <i>c</i> ₂]	(N_1, N_2, N_3)	$\Omega(\gamma,-\zeta^\star(\gamma))$
[1; 0; 2]	(1,2,2)	$y^4 + 2y^2 + 3 + \dots$
[1; 0; 3]	(2,3,3)	$y^6 + 2y^4 + 5y^2 + 6 + \dots$
[2; 0; 3]	(1,3,3)	$-y^9 - 2y^7 - 4y^5 - 6y^3 - 6y - \dots$
[2; -1; 2]	(1,2,1)	$y^4 + 2y^2 + 3 + \dots$
[2; -1; 3]	(2,3,2)	$y^8 + 2y^6 + 6y^4 + 9y^2 + 12 + \dots$
[3; -1; 3]	(1,3,2)	$y^8 + 2y^6 + 5y^4 + 8y^2 + 10 + \dots$
[4; -2; 4]	(1,3,1)	$y^5 + y^3 + y + \dots$

Attractor invariants for Fano surfaces

• We conjecture that the vanishing of attractor invariants holds for any CY threefold $X = K_S$ where S is a Fano surface. This includes the toric cases $S = \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1$ and $S = dP_{k \le 3}$, but also the non-toric del Pezzo surfaces $dP_{4 \le k \le 8}$.

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- For those cases, we have computed VW invariants using the flow tree formula, under the assumption that Ω_⋆(γ, y) = 0 unless γ = γ_k or ⟨γ, ·⟩ = 0, and found agreement with independent results based on blow-up and wall-crossing formulae.

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- The vanishing of Ω_{*}(γ, y) is supported by similar arguments about expected dimension, using ad hoc quadratic form Q(γ).
- The computation of D4-D2-D0 indices are insensitive to the value of $\Omega_*(n\delta)$, the BPS index for *n* D0-branes on *X*. This value can be fixed by considering D6-brane bound states.

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The attractor flow tree formula for quivers

- 2 Toric CY3 and brane tilings
- 3 Unframed indices and VW invariants
- Framed indices and molten crystals

5 Conclusion

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In presence of a non-compact D6-brane, the quiver acquires an additional (ungauged) framing node with *f_k* arrows ∞ → *ℓ*. For X = K_S, *f_k* = χ(O_S, E_k).

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- For simplicity we assume a single framing arrow, *f_k* = δ_{k,ℓ}. The framed DT invariants Ω(1, *d*) in the non-commutative (NC) chamber ζ_∞ > 0, ζ_k < 0 can be computed by torus localization.

Mozgovoy Reineke'08

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Let J(Q, W) the Jacobian algebra (i.e. the path algebra modded out by relations ∂_aW = 0), and Δ_ℓ the set of equivalence classes of paths which start at the vertex ℓ. It admits a partial order with u ≤ v if there exists a path w such that wu ~ v. Δ_i can be represented as a pyramid or crystal.

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In the NC chamber, toric fixed points are in one-to-one correspondence with finite ideals C ⊂ Δ_ℓ, i.e. subsets such that u ∈ C whenever ∃v ∈ C with u ≤ v. They can be represented as molten pyramids or molten crystals.

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- Each ideal C contributes ± 1 to the (unrefined, framed) index $\Omega_{\text{NCDT}}(1, d)$ with $d = \sum_{u \in \mathbb{C}} d_u$. The generating series is

$$Z_{\ell}(x) = \sum_{\mathcal{C} \subset \Delta_{\ell}} (-1)^{d_{\ell} + \chi_{O}(d,d)} x^{d}$$

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where $\chi_Q(d, d') = \sum_{a \in Q_0} d_a d'_a - \sum_{a:i \to j} d_a d'_b$ is the Euler form.

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where $\chi_Q(d, d') = \sum_{a \in Q_0} d_a d'_a - \sum_{a; i \to i} d_a d'_b$ is the Euler form.

Using the flow tree formula for quiver *Q̃* with Ω_{*}(1, d) = 0 for d ≠ 0, we can read off the (unrefined, unframed) attractor invariants Ω_{*}(0, d).

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Example: D6-D0/C³







 The Jacobian algebra is J(Q, W) = C[x, y, z]. Ideals correspond to plane partitions, or molten configurations of the crystal N³.

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- The generating function of D6-D0 indices is [MacMahon 1916]

$$M(x) = \prod_{k=1}^{\infty} (1-x^k)^{-k} = 1 + x + 3x^2 + 6x^3 + 13x^4 + 24x^5 + 48x^6 + \dots$$

Example: D6-D0/ \mathbb{C}^3







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• The unframed, unrefined indices are $\Omega(n) = -1$ for *n* D0-branes.

Example: D6-D2-D0 on the conifold



• The generating function of D6-D2-D0 indices is [Szendroi'07]

$$Z_0 = M(-x_0x_1)^2 \prod_{k \ge 1} (1 + x_0^k (-x_1)^{k-1})^k (1 + x_0^k (-x_1)^{k+1})^k$$

= 1 + x_0 - 2x_0x_1 + (x_0x_1^2 - 4x_0^2x_1) + (8x_0^2x_1^2 - 2x_0^3x_1) + \dots

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• The non-zero unframed indices are $\Omega(n, n) = -2$, $\Omega(n, n \pm 1) = 1$.

Example: D6-D4-D2-D0 on $\mathbb{C}^3/\mathbb{Z}_3$



$$W = \epsilon_{ijk} \Phi^i_{12} \Phi^j_{23} \Phi^k_{31}$$



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• This is consistent with the vanishing of all attractor indices except $\Omega_{\star}(n, n, n) = -3 = -\chi(K_{\mathbb{P}_2})$ for *n* D0-branes.

- This strategy applies to any brane tiling and allows to determine the (unframed, unrefined) attractor indices by counting molten crystals.
- This confirms our conjecture for Fano surfaces, and indicates that the vanishing of all attractor indices except Ω_⋆(nδ) = −χ_X also holds for smooth toric threefolds with more than one compact divisor. Eg: C₃/Z₅, Y^{3,2},...
- For singular toric threefolds, such that the boundary of the toric diagram contains lattice points in addition to the corners, one finds Ω_{*}(*d*) ≠ 0 for some *d* in the kernel of ⟨−,−⟩. Eg: 𝔽₂, *PdP*₂, ℂ³/ℤ₆, ...

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Toric CY threefolds



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NCDT invariants from attractor indices

 Assuming the conjecture holds, refined NCDT invariants can be computed for all *d* once we know Ω_{*}(*n*δ, *y*). The latter can be extracted from the motivic D6-D0 invariants of *X*:

$$\Omega_{\star}(n\delta, y) = (-y)^{-3} [X] = -b_6/y^3 - b_4/y - yb_2 - y^3b_0$$

where *b_i* are Betti numbers for cohomology with compact support. Behrend Bryan Szendroï'09, Manschot BP Sen'10

• For toric CY threefold, [X] can be read off from the toric diagram:

$$\Omega_{\star}(n\delta, y) = -y^{-3} - (i+b-3)y^{-1} - iy$$

where *i* and *b* are the number of internal and boundary lattice points. For y = 1, $\Omega_{\star}(n\delta) = -(2i + b - 2) = -\chi_X$ is the number of triangles in the toric diagram, by Pick's theorem.

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Refined NCDT invariants for $\mathbb{C}^3/\mathbb{Z}_3$

• The generating function of refined framed indices is

$$Z_{1} = 1 + x_{1} + (y^{2} + 1 + 1/y^{2}) (x_{1}x_{2} + x_{1}x_{2}^{2})$$

$$- (y^{3} + y + 1/y) (x_{1}x_{2}x_{3} + x_{1}^{2}x_{2}x_{3})$$

$$+ (y^{4} + 2y^{2} + 3 + 2/y^{2} + 1/y^{4}) x_{1}x_{2}^{2}x_{3} + x_{1}x_{2}^{3}$$

$$- (y^{5} + y^{3} + y + 1/y + 1/y^{3} + 1/y^{5}) x_{1}x_{2}^{3}x_{3}$$

$$+ (y^{4} + 2y^{2} + 3 + 2/y^{2} + 1/y^{4}) x_{1}x_{2}^{2}x_{3}^{2}$$

$$- (y^{5} + 2y^{3} + 3y + 2y + 1/y^{3}) (x_{1}^{2}x_{2}^{2}x_{3} + x_{1}^{2}x_{2}^{3}x_{3}) + \dots$$

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 These invariants can be confirmed by computing (unframed, refined) DT invariants for trivial stability, and using wall-crossing.

Mozgovoy BP'20

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- If so, $\Omega_{\star}^{L^2}(n\delta, y) = -i(y + 1/y)$ for *m* D0-branes, where *i* is the number of internal points, or compact divisors.

Beaujard BP Manschot '20, Duan Ghim Yi '20

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Beaujard BP Manschot '20, Duan Ghim Yi '20

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• Single-centered (or pure Higgs) invariants $\Omega_{\rm S}(\gamma, y)$ differ from $\Omega_{\star}(\gamma, y)$ due to scaling solutions. There is circumstancial evidence that $\Omega_{\rm S}^{L_2}(\gamma, y) = 0$ except for the basic D-branes !

The attractor flow tree formula for quivers

- 2 Toric CY3 and brane tilings
- 3 Unframed indices and VW invariants
- 4 Framed indices and molten crystals
- 5 Conclusion

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 There is overwhelming evidence for the claim that attractor invariants for toric CY3 singularities always vanish, except when they cannot ! Exceptional attractor invariants arise for toric diagrams with lattice points on the boundary. The same seems to hold in non-toric examples.

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- If true, this conjecture gives a new algorithm for computing refined VW invariants and refined NCDT invariants. Can one refine the crystal melting prescription ?
- Does this shed light on the mock modular properties of generating series of VW invariants ? How about Ω_{*/S}(γ) for compact CY3 ?

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Thank you for your attention, and mind the wall !



B. Pioline (LPTHE, Paris)