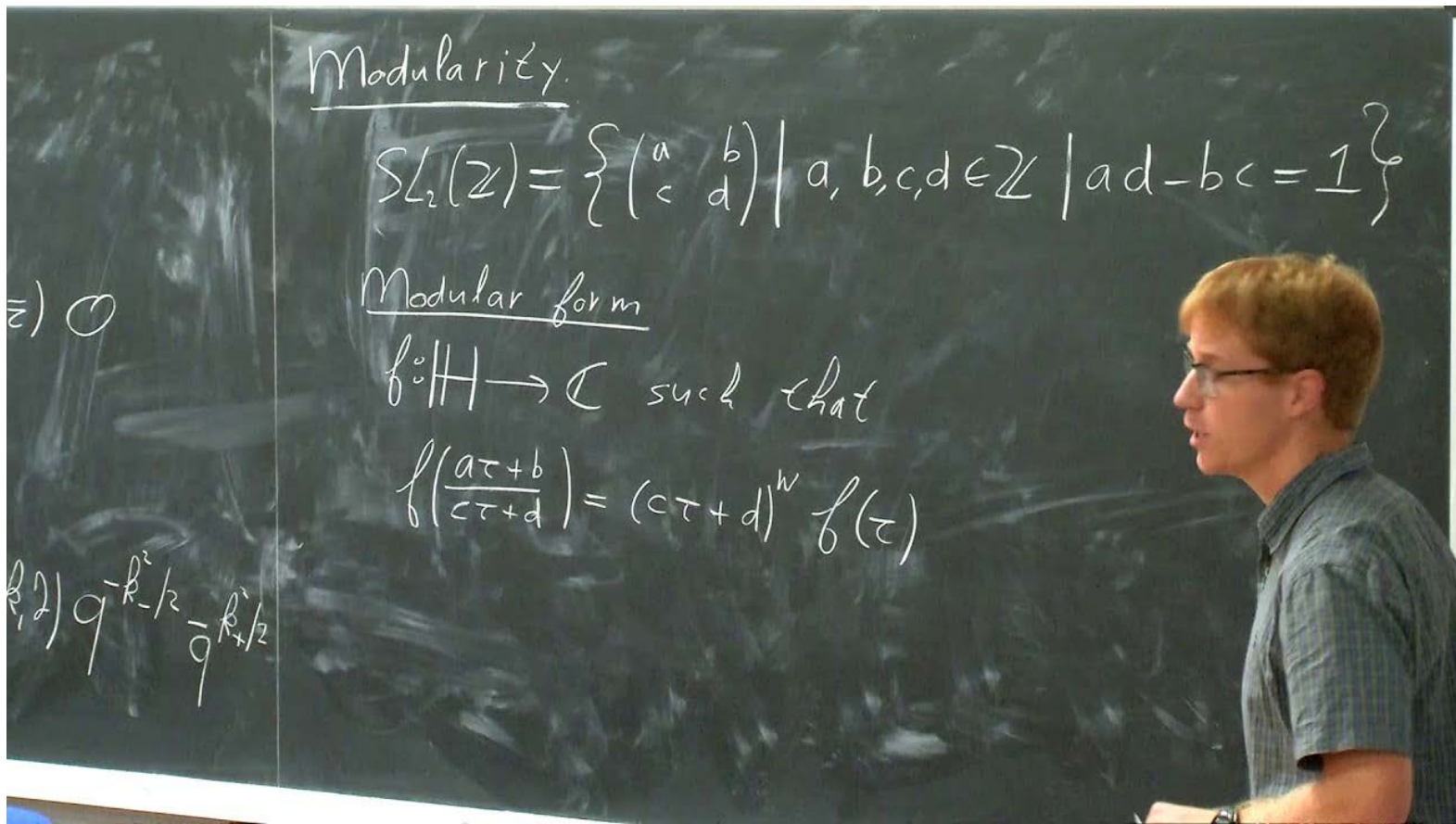


$N=2^*$  SYM,  
Four Manifold Invariants,  
And Mock Modularity

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KITP - Modularity  
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# Work with JAN MANSCHOT



Project has taken a few years. I first spoke about it at  
Simons Foundation Conference,  
Sept. 2017 (run by Jeff and Shamit)

# 1 Introduction & Preliminaries

2 Summary Of Main Claims

3 The  $N=2^*$  Theory: UV Meaning Of Invariants

4 Remarks On S-Duality Orbits Of Partition Functions

5 Coulomb Branch Integral: Measure & Evaluation

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# Preliminaries

$X$ :  $d=4$ , Smooth, compact, oriented,  $\partial X = \emptyset$ .

$b_2^+(X)$  : Odd & positive

We study a TQFT on  $X$

$d=4$   $N=2^*$  SYM.  $G = SU(2), SO(3)$

The partition function generalizes both the Donaldson invariants and the Vafa-Witten invariants, and interpolates between them.

# Preliminaries

The theory depends on a choice of background spin-c structure  $\xi$ .

Labastida-Marino [1995] noticed need to introduce  $\xi$

The detailed dependence has not previously been discussed. Including it turns out to be nontrivial. We believe we have solved the problem completely.

Long, long, ago, at the ITP in 1998....

general definition:

Given a formal series  $\varphi(z) = \sum_{n \geq 0} a_n z^n$

we say that a well-defined function  $f(z)$  provides a non-perturbative definition

$\varphi(z)$  if  $f(z)$  has an asymptotic expansion given by  $\varphi(z)$ .

$$f(z) \sim \varphi(z) = \sum_{n \geq 0} a_n z^n$$

NP ambiguity



$-1/2$

# Preliminary: $Spin^c$ -structure

$$Spin^c(4) := \{ (u_1, u_2) \mid \det(u_1) = \det(u_2) \} \subset U(2) \times U(2)$$

$$1 \rightarrow U(1) \rightarrow Spin^c(4) \rightarrow SO(4) \rightarrow 1$$

Spin-c structure on  $X$ :

Reduction of structure group of  $TX$  to  $Spin^c(4)$

“Spinors”: Associated rank 2 bundles  $W^\pm$

$$c(\mathfrak{s}) := c_1(\det W^\pm) \in H^2(X; \mathbb{Z})$$

$$\ell = \frac{c(\mathfrak{s})^2 - 2\chi - 3\sigma}{8} \in \mathbb{Z}$$



# Preliminary: $Spin^c$ & ACS

An ACS  $\mathcal{J}$  defines a canonical spin-c structure  $\mathfrak{s}(\mathcal{J})$  :

Almost Complex Structure (ACS):  
Reduction of structure group of  $TX$  to  $U(2)$

$$Spin^c(4) := \{ (u_1, u_2) \mid \det(u_1) = \det(u_2) \} \subset U(2) \times U(2)$$

Use diagonal homomorphism  $U(2) \rightarrow Spin^c(4)$ .

For  $c = c(\mathfrak{s})$  for  $\mathfrak{s}$  an ACS we have

$$c^2 = 2\chi + 3\sigma \quad \ell = 0$$



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# Intro & Main Claims – 1/6

Data needed to formulate the partition function:

$$\tau_{uv} \in \mathcal{H} ; q_{uv} := e^{2\pi i \tau_{uv}}$$

$$m \in \mathbb{C} \quad \Lambda: \text{UV scale} \quad t := m/\Lambda$$

(UV) Spin-c structure:  $\mathfrak{s}$ ,  $c_{uv} := c_1(\mathfrak{s}) \in H^2(X, \mathbb{Z})$

$$\nu \in H^2(X; \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$$

# Intro & Main Claims – 2/6

Path integral defines a “function”

$$Z_\nu(\tau_{uv}, c_{uv}, t): H_*(X; \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$$

$$Z_\nu(x; \tau_{uv}, c_{uv}, t) = \sum_{k \geq 0} q_{uv}^k \int_{\mathcal{M}_{Q,k}} e^{\mu(x)} \text{Eul}(\mathcal{E}_\zeta; t)$$

$\mathcal{M}_{Q,k}$ : Moduli of nonabelian monopole connections on a principal  $SO(3)$  bundle  $P \rightarrow X$  with  $\nu = w_2(P)$  and instanton no. =  $k$

$$\mu: H_*(X, \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow H^{4-*}(\mathcal{M}_{Q,k}; \mathbb{Q})$$

$\mathcal{E}_\zeta$  :  $U(1)$ -equivariant virtual bundle

# Intro & Main Claims – 3/6

Special cases were studied in  
[Moore & Witten 1997; Labastida & Lozano 1998 ]

Those studies were limited to spin manifolds  
with trivial spin-c structure.

Related work: Vafa-Witten & Dijkgraaf, Park, Schroers  
1998 N=1 deformation of N=4 SYM,  
Kähler 4-folds with  $b_2^+ \geq 3$  & no observables

Also related: Recent work of  
Göttsche, Kool, Nakajima, and Williams

# Physical Mass Limits

$$m \rightarrow 0$$

$$[N = 2^* \text{ SYM}] \rightarrow [N = 4 \text{ SYM}]$$

SW94:

$$m \rightarrow \infty \text{ \& } q_{uv} \rightarrow 0$$

$$\Lambda_0^4 = 4 m^4 q_{uv}$$

$\Rightarrow$  *pure SYM*

# Intro & Main Claims – 4/6

1A: For  $\mathfrak{s} = \mathfrak{s}(\mathcal{J})$  and  $t \rightarrow 0$

$$Z_{\mathfrak{v}}(x, \tau_{uv}, c_{uv}, t) \rightarrow Z_{\mathfrak{v}}^{VW}(\tau_{uv})$$

1B: For ANY spin-c structure,  
 $m \rightarrow \infty$  &  $q_{uv} \rightarrow 0$  with  $\Lambda_0^4 := 4m^4 q_{uv}$  fixed:

$$Z_{\mathfrak{v}}^{renorm}(x, \tau_{uv}, c_{uv}, t) \rightarrow Z_{\mathfrak{v}}^{DW}(x)$$

What we mean by  $Z_{\mathfrak{v}}^{renorm}$  is an interesting story best discussed later

# Intro & Main Claims – 5/6

## Central Claim:

$Z_\nu$  can be computed by studying an integral over Coulomb Branch = Base of Hitchin system  
=(this case: modular curve  $\mathcal{H}/\Gamma(2) \cong \mathbb{C} - 3pt$ )

2a: Writing a single-valued measure  
⇒ implications for class S generalization

2b: **Integrand** is a total derivative of a mock Maass-Jacobi form.

2c: **Value** of the integral is a nonholomorphic completion of a mock modular form.

# Intro & Main Claims – 6/6

For  $b_2^+ > 1$   $Z_\nu$  is a linear combination of SW invariants with coefficients in a ring of modular forms for  $\tau_{uv}$  and obeys the “proper” S-duality covariance

Today I will skip much of the physics background – See previous talks.



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# ``Equations Of Motion''

$$A \in \mathcal{A}(P) \quad M \in \Gamma(W^+ \otimes adP \otimes \mathbb{C})$$

$W^+ \rightarrow X$  : Positive chirality rank two bundle  
associated to uv spin-c structure  $\mathfrak{s}$

$Q$  –fixed point equations (need Riemannian metric)

$$F^+ + [M, \bar{M}] = 0 \quad DM = 0$$

``Nonabelian monopole/SW equations''

[Labastida-Marino; Losev-Shatashvili-Nekrasov]

When  $\mathfrak{s}$  is associated to an ACS these are  
equivalent to the Vafa-Witten equations.

# Index Computations

$$v \dim \mathcal{M}_{Q,k} = \dim G \frac{c_{uv}^2 - (2\chi + 3\sigma)}{4}$$

N.B. Independent of instanton number  $k$  !

$$\dim \mathcal{M}_k = 8k - \frac{3}{2}(\chi + \sigma)$$

$$\text{Index } \mathbf{D} = -8k + \frac{3}{8}(c_{uv}^2 - \sigma)$$

$\Rightarrow$  Correlation functions on  $H_*(X)$  infinite  $q_{uv}$  - series

# Operators In The TQFT

$$\mathcal{O}: H_*(X, \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow Q - coho$$

$$p \in H_0(X; \mathbb{Z}) \quad \mathcal{O}(p) = [Tr \phi^2(p)]$$

$$S \in H_2(X; \mathbb{Z}) \quad \mathcal{O}(S) = \left[ \int_S Tr(\phi F + \psi^2) \right]$$

What do these mean mathematically?

# $U(1)_b$ Symmetry

$$F^+ + [M, \bar{M}] = 0 \quad DM = 0$$

$$U(1)_b : M \rightarrow e^{i\theta} M$$

$U(1)_b$  acts on the moduli space  $\mathcal{M}_{Q,k}$  of these eqs.

$$\text{Q-coho} \cong H_{U(1)_b}^*(\mathcal{M}_{Q,k})$$

$t = \frac{m}{\Lambda}$ :  $U(1)_b$  equivariant parameter

[Labastida-Marino; Losev-Shatashvili-Nekrasov]

$$\mathcal{O}(x) \leftrightarrow \mu(x)$$

# Generating Function Of Correlators

$$Z_\nu(x; \tau_{uv}, c_{uv}, t) := \langle e^{\mathcal{O}(x)} \rangle_{\mathcal{N}=2^*}$$

$Q$ -symmetry: Path integral  $\rightarrow \int_{\mathcal{M}_{Q,k}} \dots$

$$\langle e^{\mathcal{O}(x)} \rangle_{\mathcal{N}=2^*} = \sum_{k \geq 0} q_{uv}^k \int_{\mathcal{M}_{Q,k}} e^{\mu(x)} \text{Eul}(\mathcal{E}_\zeta; t)$$

$\mathcal{E}_\zeta$  : Obstruction bundle for elliptic complex

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# S-Duality

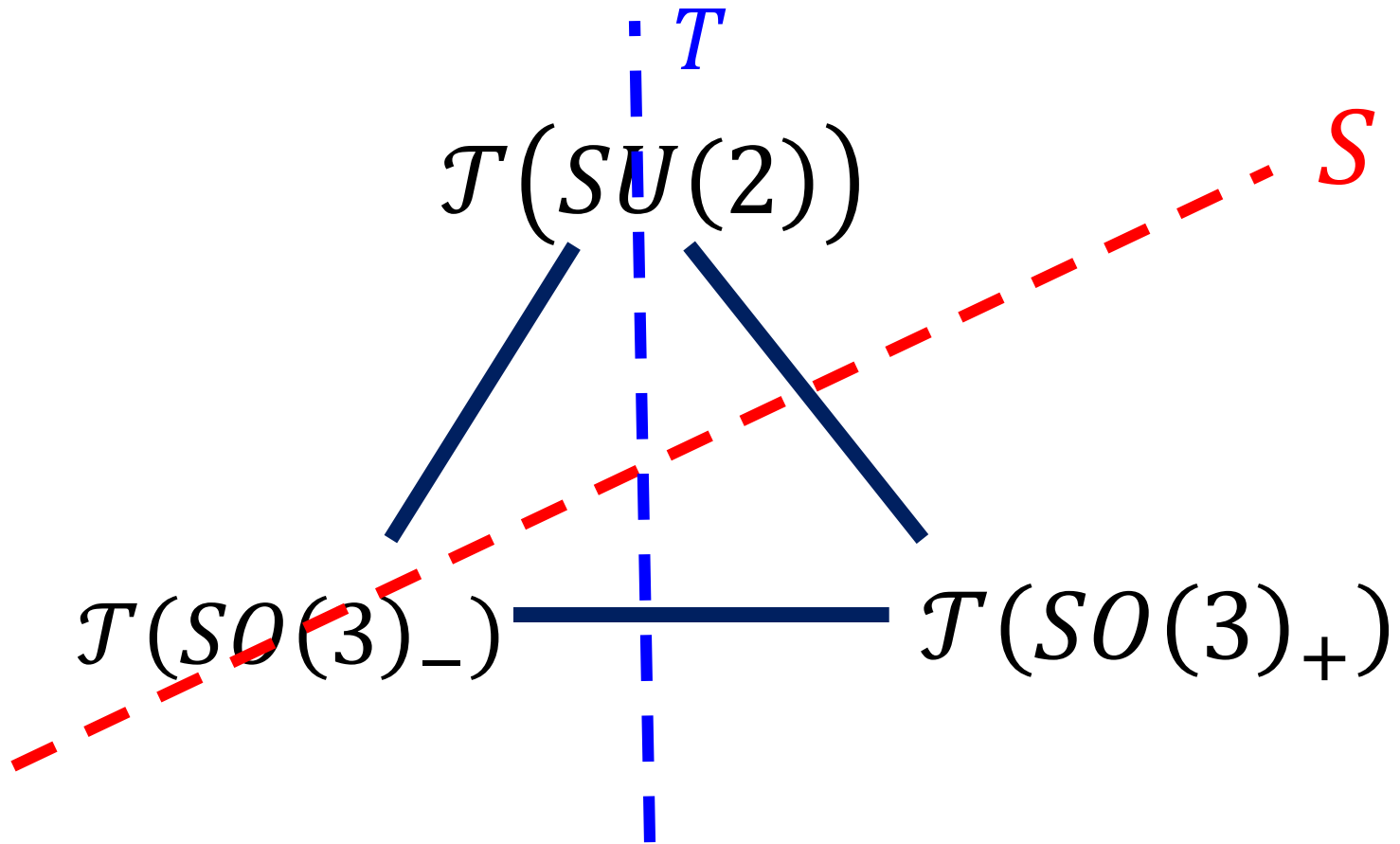
In the  $SU(2)$  theory  $Z_\nu$  is the partition function in the presence of 't Hooft flux  
 $\nu \in H^2(X; \mathbb{Z}_2)$

The  $Z_\nu$  span a vector space  $\mathcal{V}$

But arbitrary linear combinations  
aren't physically meaningful



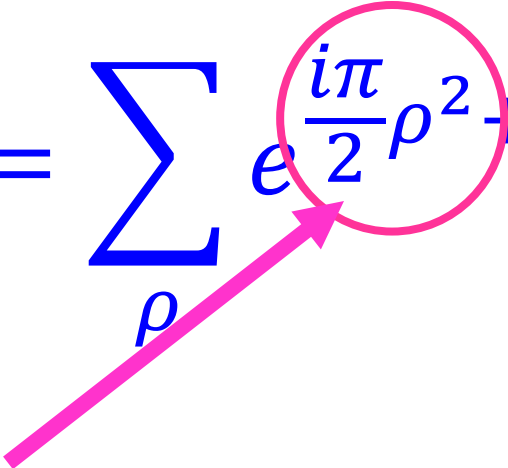
# Three Distinct Theories



Gaiotto, Moore, Neitzke 2009;  
Aharony, Seiberg, Tachikawa 2013

# Partition Functions For The $SO(3)_{\pm}$ Theories

$$Z_{\nu}^{SO(3)_{+}} = \sum_{\rho} e^{i\pi \nu \cdot \rho} Z_{\rho}$$

$$Z_{\nu}^{SO(3)_{-}} = \sum_{\rho} e^{\frac{i\pi}{2}\rho^2 + i\pi \nu \cdot \rho} Z_{\rho}$$


$$\Delta S = \frac{i\pi}{2} \int P_2(w_2(P))$$

Aharony, Seiberg, Tachikawa 2013

# S-Duality Transformations

$$T: Z_\nu \rightarrow \xi_\nu Z_\nu$$

$$S: Z_\nu \rightarrow (-i \tau_0)^w \sum_\rho e^{i \pi \nu \cdot \rho} Z_\rho$$

$$w = -\frac{\chi}{2} - 4\ell \quad \ell = \frac{c(\mathfrak{s})^2 - 2\chi - 3\sigma}{8}$$

$$\xi_\nu = \omega_{12}^{-\chi - 2\ell} \omega_4^{-\nu^2}$$

Derivation from 6d ?

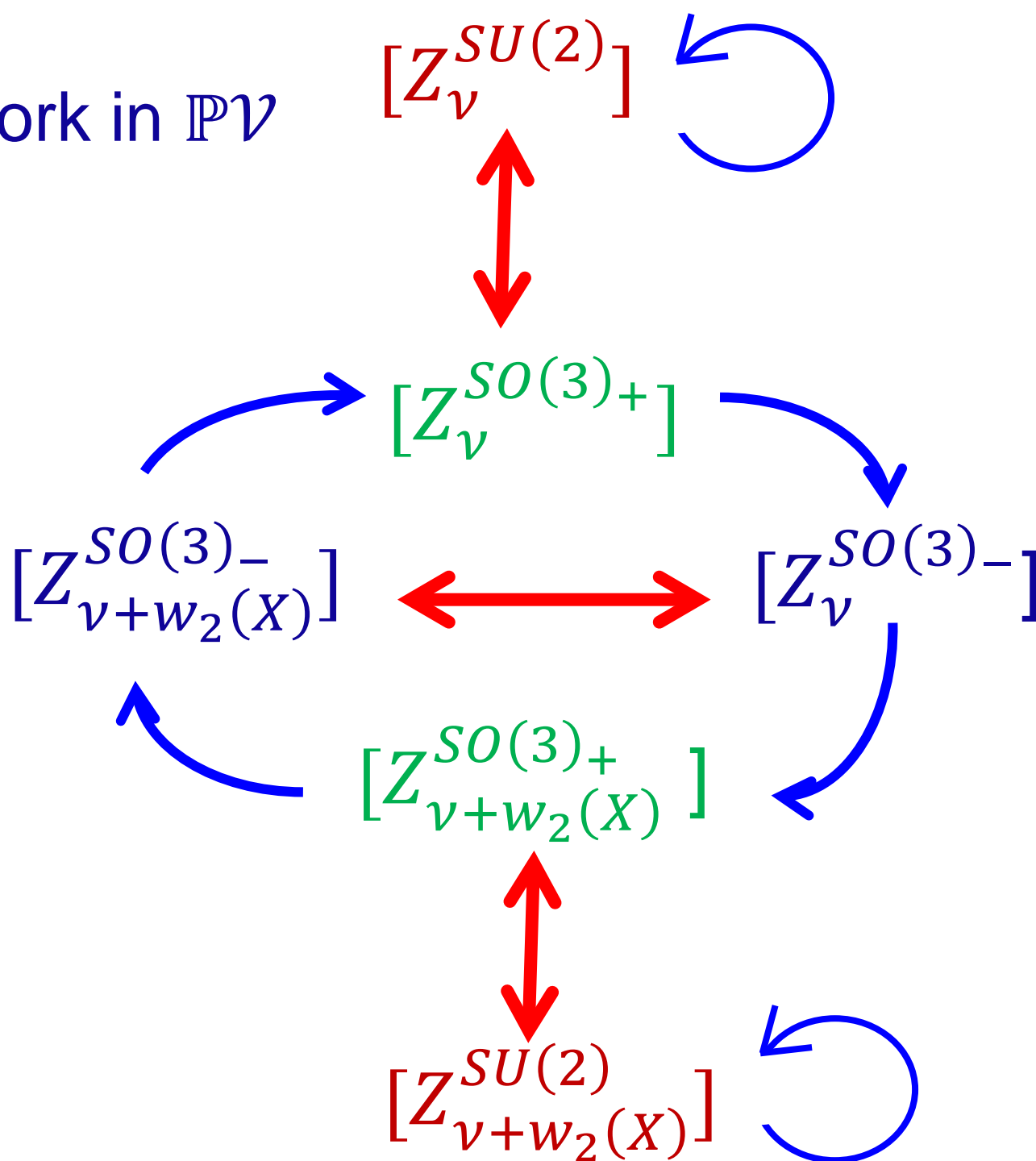
# Orbit Of Partition Functions -1/2

The  $Z_{\nu}$  span a vector space  $\mathcal{V}$

The physical partition functions of the theories form an orbit in that vector space.

It is a finite covering of the triangle of theories.

For simplicity, work in  $\mathbb{P}\mathcal{V}$



# Full Modular Transformation Law

$$x = (p, S) \in H_0(X) \oplus H_2(X) \quad \tau := \tau_{uv}$$

$$Z_\nu \left( \tilde{p}, \tilde{S}, \frac{a\tau + b}{c\tau + d} \right) = (c\tau + d)^w \sum_{\mu} B_{\mu, \nu}(\gamma) Z_{\mu}(p, S, \tau)$$

$$\tilde{S} = \frac{S}{(c\tau + d)^2}$$

$$\tilde{p} = \frac{1}{(c\tau + d)^2} (p - 2\pi i c (c\tau + d) S^2)$$

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# Coulomb Branch Integral

In principle defined for general class S theory.

$$Z_{\mathcal{V}}^{CB} = \int_{\mathcal{B}} du d\bar{u} \mathcal{H} \Psi$$

$\mathcal{H}$  is holomorphic and metric-independent

$\Psi$ : NOT holomorphic and metric-DEPENDENT  
“indefinite theta function”

Today:  $u \in \mathbb{C} \cong \mathcal{B}$



## 5 Coulomb Branch Integral: Measure & Evaluation

### 5a Seiberg-Witten Review

5b Formulating The Measure And Integral

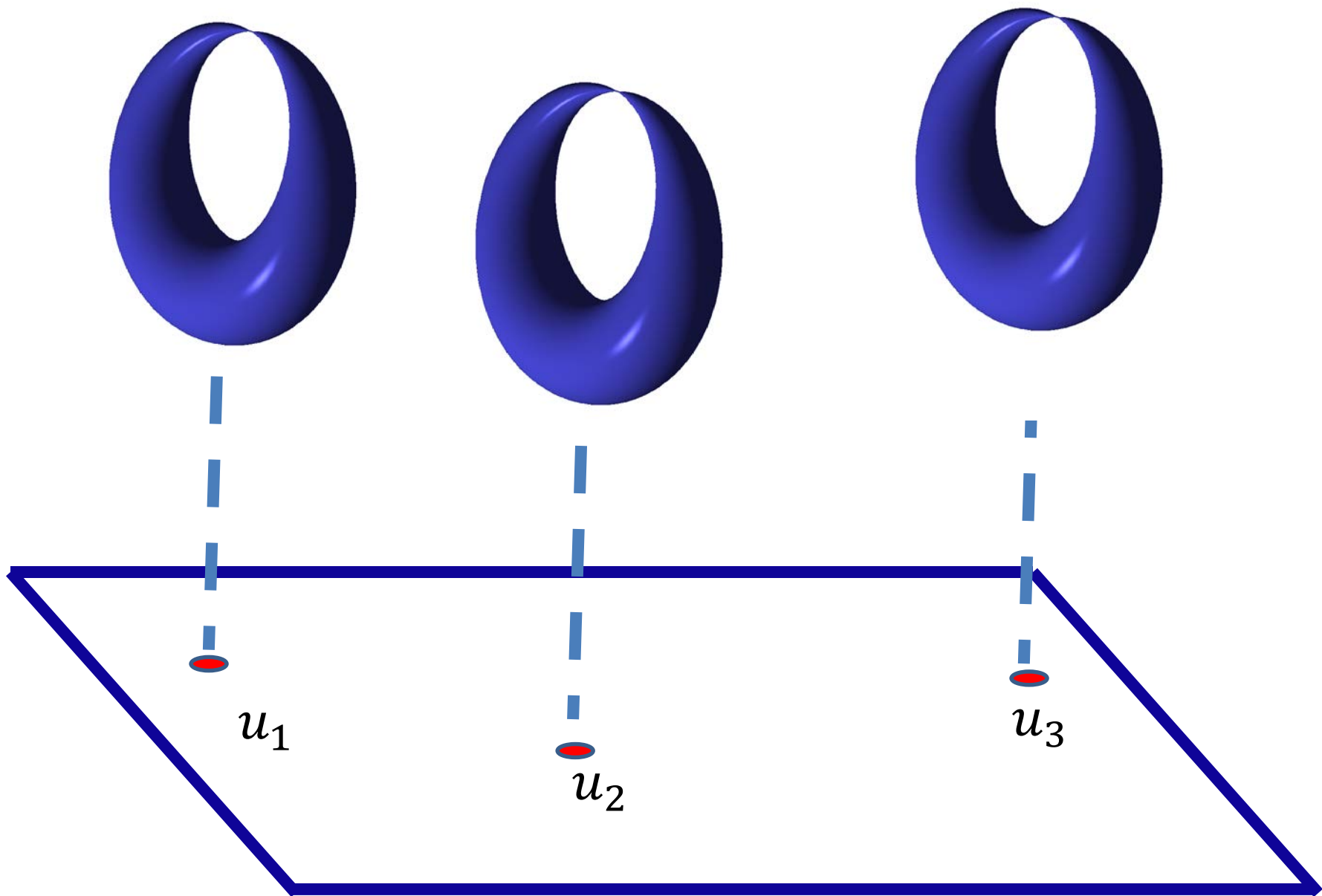
5c Evaluation Using Mock This & That

# Seiberg-Witten Review – 1/6

$$E_u \quad y^2 = \prod_{i=1}^3 (x - \alpha_i) \quad \alpha_i = u e_i(\tau_{uv}) + m^2 e_i(\tau_{uv})^2$$

$e_i(\tau_{uv})$  half-periods of  $E_{\tau_{uv}} = \mathbb{C}/(\mathbb{Z} + \tau_{uv}\mathbb{Z})$

$$\text{Discriminant} \sim \eta^{24}(\tau_{uv}) \prod_{i=1}^3 (u - m^2 e_i(\tau_{uv}))^2$$



$$u_j = m^2 e_j(\tau_0)$$

# Special Geometry

$H_1(E_u; \mathbb{Z})$ : Fibers of a local system over  $\mathcal{B}^*$

Definition: A “duality frame” is a local choice of  $A, B$  –cycles

Periods of  $\lambda$  define homomorphism  $Z_u: H_1(E_u; \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$

$$a(u) := \oint_A \lambda \quad a_D(u) := \oint_B \lambda$$

Fact: There is a locally holomorphic function  $\mathcal{F}(a)$

$$a_D = \frac{d\mathcal{F}}{da}$$

$$\frac{da}{du} = \oint_A \frac{dx}{y} \quad \frac{da_D}{du} = \oint_B \frac{dx}{y} \quad \tau = \frac{da_D}{da} = \frac{d^2\mathcal{F}}{da^2}$$

N.B.

$\tau(u, m, \tau_{uv})$  should not be confused with  $\tau_{uv}$

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow 0} \tau(u, m, \tau_{uv}) = \tau_{uv}$$

$$\lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \tau(u, m, \tau_{uv}) = \tau_{uv}$$

# Weak Coupling Prepotential

$u \rightarrow \infty$ :  $\exists$  Canonical duality frame ("weak coupling") :

$$\mathcal{F}(a, m) = \frac{1}{2} \tau_{uv} a^2 + m^2 \left( \log \left( \frac{2a}{m} \right) - \frac{3}{4} + \frac{3}{2} \log \left( \frac{m}{\Lambda} \right) \right) + a^2 \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} f_n(\tau_{uv}) \left( \frac{m}{a} \right)^{2n}$$

$f_n(\tau_{uv})$ : polynomials:  
 $E_2, E_4, E_6$  wt =  $2n - 2$

[Minhahan, Nemeschansky, Warner; Dhoker, Phong]

Nekrasov: Instanton partition function  $\Rightarrow$

$\Lambda, m$  dependence (also A, B couplings):

[Manschot, Moore, Xinyu Zhang 2019]

# Modular Parametrization

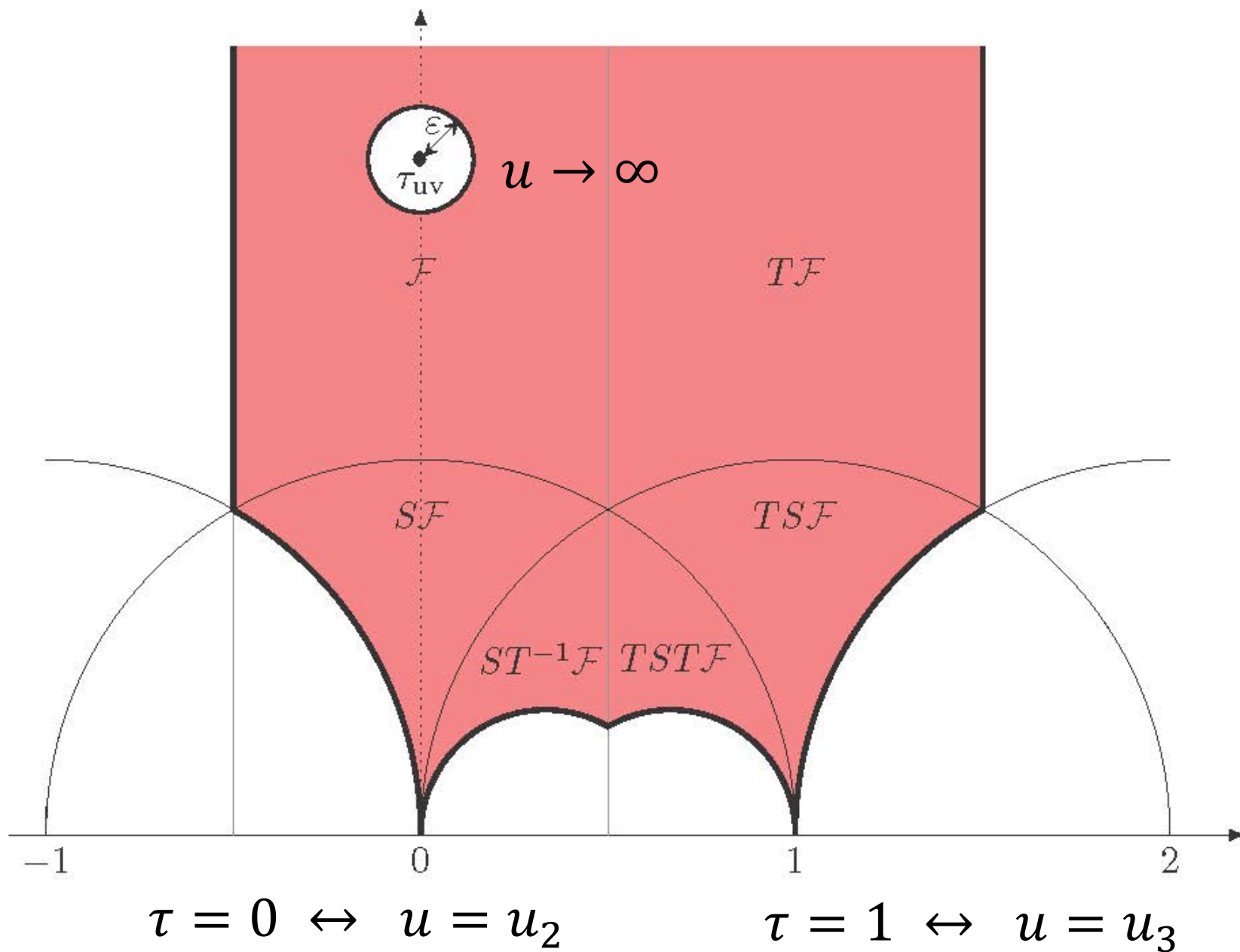
Remarkably: One can invert these equations and express periods as bimodular forms in  $\tau, \tau_{uv}$

$$m^2 \left( \frac{da}{du} \right)^2 = \frac{\vartheta_4^4(\tau) \vartheta_3^4(\tau_{uv}) - \vartheta_3^4(\tau) \vartheta_4^4(\tau_{uv})}{\eta^6(\tau_{uv})}$$

$$m^{-2} u(\tau, \tau_{uv}) = \frac{e_1^2(\tau_{uv}) e_{23}(\tau) + \text{cycl.}}{e_1(\tau_{uv}) e_{23}(\tau) + \text{cycl}}$$

$$\mathcal{B} \cong \mathcal{H} / \Gamma(2) \cong \mathcal{F}(\Gamma(2))$$

$$\tau = i \infty \leftrightarrow u = u_1$$





5 Coulomb Branch Integral: Measure & Evaluation

5a Seiberg-Witten Review

5b Formulating The Measure And Integral

5c Evaluation Using Mock This & That

# Coulomb Branch Measure

$$Z_{\nu}^{CB} = \int_{\mathcal{F}(\Gamma(2))} \Omega$$

$$\Omega = d\tau \wedge d\bar{\tau} \mathcal{H} \Psi_{\nu}^J$$

Begin with Maxwell partition function  $\Psi_{\nu}^J$

$$\Psi \sim \sum_{fluxes} e^{-S_{classical}}$$

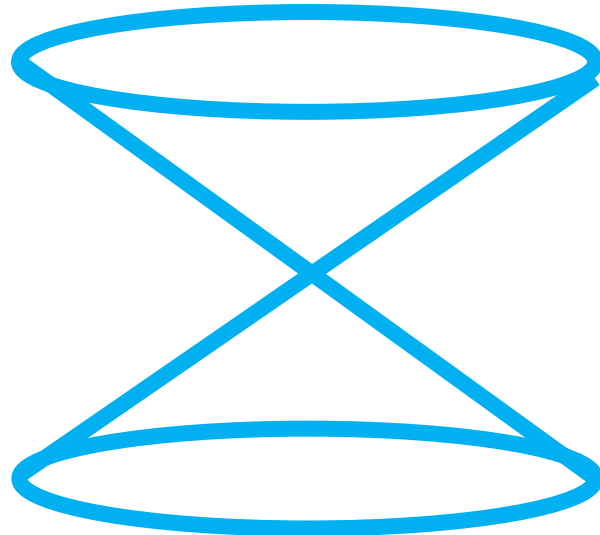
***Frame dependent.***  
***Not holomorphic.***  
***Metric dependent.***

# The "Period Point" $J$

$$b_2^+ > 1 \Rightarrow Z_\nu^{CB} = 0$$

$$b_2^+ = 1 \quad Z_\nu^{CB} \neq 0$$

$H^2(X; \mathbb{R})$



$$*J = J$$

$$J^2 = 1$$

$J \in$  Forward  
Light Cone

# Maxwell Partition Function

$$\Psi_\nu \sim \sum_{\text{fluxes}} e^{-\int \bar{\tau}(u) f_+^2 + \tau(u) f_-^2}$$

Sum over the first Chern class

$$\lambda \in 2L + \bar{\nu}, \quad L = H^2(X; \mathbb{Z})$$

$$\Psi_\nu^J = \sum_{\lambda \in 2L + \bar{\nu}} \partial_{\bar{\tau}} E_\lambda^J q^{-\frac{1}{4}\lambda^2} e^{\pi i \lambda \cdot z}$$

$$z = c_{uv} v(\tau, \tau_{uv}) + S \frac{du}{da}$$

# Maxwell Partition Function

$$\Psi_\nu^J = \sum_{\lambda \in 2L + \nu} \partial_{\bar{\tau}} E_\lambda^J q^{-\frac{1}{4}\lambda^2} e^{\pi i \lambda \cdot z}$$

$$z = c_{uv} v(\tau, \tau_{uv}) + S \frac{du}{da}$$

$$E_\lambda^J = \text{Erf}(x_\lambda) \quad \text{Erf}(x) := \int_0^x e^{-\pi t^2} dt$$

$$x_\lambda = \sqrt{\text{Im } \tau} \left( \lambda + \frac{\text{Im } z}{\text{Im } \tau} \right) \cdot J$$

# Maxwell Coupling To $\xi_{uv}$

$$\sim \exp\left(\int_X v F_b^+ f^+ + \bar{v} F_b^- f^-\right)$$

~~Folklore~~

$$v := \frac{d^2 \mathcal{F}}{dadm} = (a_D - a\tau)/m$$

Determines bimodular  $v(\tau, \tau_{uv})$

$$\frac{\vartheta_2(v, 2\tau)}{\vartheta_3(v, 2\tau)} = \frac{\vartheta_2(0, 2\tau_{uv})}{\vartheta_3(0, 2\tau_{uv})}$$

# Holomorphic Part Of Measure

$$\mathcal{H}_{bare} = A_1^\sigma A_2^\chi A_3^{c_{uv}^2}$$

Include observables:

$$\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_{bare} A_4^p A_5^{c_{uv} \cdot S} A_6^{S^2}$$

Depend on duality frame –

- but the local system has nontrivial monodromy.

# Local Topological Interactions

$$A_1 = \prod_i (u - u_i)^{\frac{1}{8}} =$$

$$(2m)^6 \frac{\eta(\tau_{uv})^{24} \eta(\tau)^{12}}{(\vartheta_4(\tau)^4 \vartheta_3(\tau_{uv})^4 - \vartheta_3(\tau)^4 \vartheta_4(\tau_{uv})^4)^3}$$

$$A_2 = \left( \frac{da}{du} \right)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$A_3 := \exp \left( -2 \pi i \frac{d^2 \mathcal{F}}{dm^2} \right) = \left( \frac{\Lambda}{m} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} \frac{\vartheta_1(2\tau, 2\nu)}{\vartheta_2^2(\tau_{uv}) \vartheta_4(2\tau)}$$



With all these ingredients we can now check that the CB measure is indeed monodromy invariant and hence well-defined.  
(Nontrivial!)

What about defining the integral of the measure?

$$u \rightarrow u_j$$

$$\mathcal{H} \rightarrow q_j^{-\frac{\ell}{2}} F(\tau_{uv}) \left(1 + \mathcal{O}(q_j)\right)$$

$$u \rightarrow \infty \text{ i.e. } \tau \rightarrow \tau_{uv}$$

$$(\tau - \tau_{uv})^{\ell - \frac{3}{2}} \sum_{\lambda} \dots e^{-\frac{m}{\Lambda} (\tau - \tau_{uv})^{-\frac{1}{2}} S \cdot \lambda}$$

Do the phase integral first.  
(as in string theory)

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# Relation To Mock Modular Forms -1.1

$Z_V^{CB}$  : A sum of integrals of the form

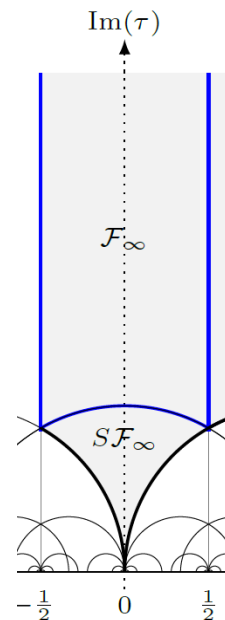
$$I_f = \int_{\mathcal{F}_\infty} d\tau d\bar{\tau} (\text{Im } \tau)^{-s} f(\tau, \bar{\tau})$$

Support of  $c$  is bounded below  $f(\tau, \bar{\tau}) = \sum_{m-n \in \mathbb{Z}} c(m, n) q^m \bar{q}^n$

Strategy: Find  $\hat{h}(\tau, \bar{\tau})$  such that

$$\partial_{\bar{\tau}} \hat{h} = (\text{Im } \tau)^{-s} f(\tau, \bar{\tau})$$

$\hat{h}(\tau, \bar{\tau})$  is modular of weight  $(2, 0)$



# Relation To Mock Modular Forms – 1.2

We choose an explicit solution

$$\partial_{\bar{\tau}} R = (Im\tau)^{-s} f(\tau, \bar{\tau})$$

vanishing exponentially fast at  $Im\tau \rightarrow \infty$

$R$  is not modular, but its failure to be modular must be holomorphic.

$$\hat{h}(\tau, \bar{\tau}) = h(\tau) + R$$

$h(\tau)$  : mock modular form

$$h(\tau) = \sum_{m \in \mathbb{Z}} d(m) q^m \quad q = e^{2\pi i \tau}$$

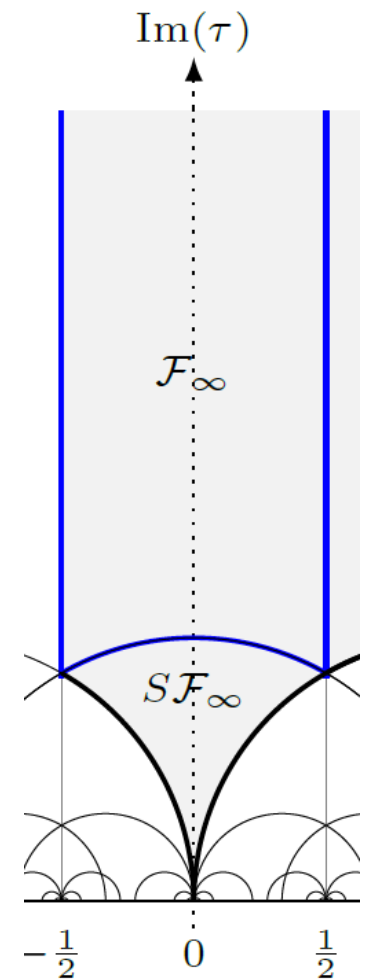
# Doing The Integral

$$I_f = \int_{\mathcal{F}_\infty} d\tau d\bar{\tau} y^{-s} f(\tau, \bar{\tau})$$

$$\partial_{\bar{\tau}} \hat{h} = y^{-s} f(\tau, \bar{\tau})$$

$$I_f = d(0)$$

$$h(\tau) = \sum_{m \in \mathbb{Z}} d(m) q^m$$



Note:  $d(0)$  undetermined by diffeq but fixed by the modular properties: Subtle!

# Evaluation Of CB Integral ?

$$Z_\nu^{CB} = \int_{\mathcal{F}(\Gamma(2))} \Omega \quad \Omega = d\tau \wedge d\bar{\tau} \mathcal{H} \Psi_\nu^J$$

$$\Psi_\nu^J = \sum_{\lambda \in 2L + \nu} \partial_{\bar{\tau}} E_\lambda^J q^{-\frac{1}{4}\lambda^2} e^{-2\pi i \lambda \cdot z}$$

$$z = c_{uv} v(\tau, \tau_{uv}) + S \frac{du}{da}$$

$$\Omega = d\Lambda \quad \Lambda = d\tau \mathcal{H} \hat{G} \quad \Psi_\nu^J = \partial_{\bar{\tau}} \hat{G}$$

# Evaluation Of CB Integral ?

$$\Psi_\nu^J = \sum_{\lambda \in 2L + \nu} \partial_{\bar{\tau}} E_\lambda^J q^{-\frac{1}{4}\lambda^2} e^{-2\pi i \lambda \cdot z}$$

$$\Psi_\nu^J = \partial_{\bar{\tau}} \hat{G}$$

$$\hat{G} = \sum_{\lambda \in 2L + \nu} E_\lambda^J q^{-\frac{1}{4}\lambda^2} e^{-2\pi i \lambda \cdot z}$$

??? NO!!!  $\lim_{\lambda^2 \rightarrow +\infty} E_\lambda^J = \pm 1$



# Evaluating Difference Of CB Integrals

$$\psi^{J_1} - \psi^{J_2} = \partial_{\bar{\tau}} \widehat{G}^{J_1, J_2}$$

$$\widehat{G}^{J_1, J_2} = \sum_{\lambda \in 2L + \nu} E_{\lambda}^{J_1, J_2} q^{-\frac{1}{4}\lambda^2} e^{-2\pi i \lambda \cdot z}$$

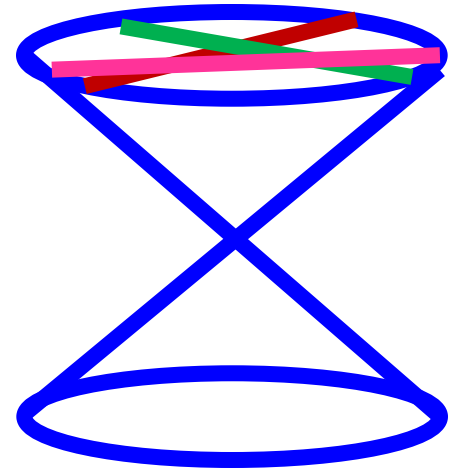
$$E_{\lambda}^{J_1, J_2} = \text{Erf}(x_{\lambda}^{J_1}) - \text{Erf}(x_{\lambda}^{J_2})$$

Converges nicely!

$\Rightarrow$  Can use this to evaluate the difference  $Z_{\nu}^{CB, J_1} - Z_{\nu}^{CB, J_2}$  by a sum of residues.

# Metric Dependence

Discontinuous jumps across walls:  
Involves modular functions



For the boundary at  $u \rightarrow \infty$  the modular parameter  $\tau \rightarrow \tau_{uv}$ . This leads to **continuous** metric dependence.

Closely related: Nonholomorphic in  $\tau_{uv}$

( $\mathbb{CP}^2$  is a degenerate case.)

# The Coulomb Branch Integral As Harmonic Maass Form

$$Z_{\nu}^{CB}(\tau_{uv}) = \int_{\mathcal{F}(\Gamma(2))} \Omega(\tau, \tau_{uv})$$

$Z_{\nu}^{CB}$  transforms under  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$  as above

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{\tau}_{uv}} Z_{\nu}^{CB} = y^{-\frac{3}{2}} \eta^{-2\chi} \sum_{\lambda} K[\lambda_+, \lambda_-] \bar{q}^{\lambda_+^2} q^{-\lambda_-^2}$$

# The Special Period Point

For any manifold with  $b_2^+ = 1$

$\exists$  special  $J_0$  such that  $\Psi_\nu^{J_0}$  factorizes:

$$\Psi_\nu^{J_0} = f_\nu \Theta_{L_-}(\tau, z)$$

$$f_\nu = \sum_{\lambda \in 2\mathbb{Z} + \nu} \partial_{\bar{\tau}} E_\lambda^J q^{-\frac{1}{4}\lambda^2} e^{-2\pi i \lambda \cdot z}$$

# Measure As A Total Derivative

$$\Omega = d\Lambda \quad \Lambda = d\tau \mathcal{H} \hat{G}$$

Where we can write  $\hat{G}$  explicitly so that  $\Lambda$  is:

1. Well-defined
2. Nonsingular away from  $\tau \in \{0, 1, i\infty, \tau_{uv}\}$
3. Good  $q_i$  expansion near cusps

# Harmonic Jacobi-Maass Forms

These conditions determine  $\hat{G}$  uniquely.

Modular completion of an Appel-Lerche sum

$$F(\tau, z) \sim \frac{e^{-2\pi i z}}{\vartheta_4(2\tau)} \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \frac{(-1)^n q^{n^2 - \frac{1}{4}}}{1 + e^{4\pi i z} q^{2n-1}}$$

$$z = c_{uv} v(\tau, \tau_{uv}) + S \frac{du}{da}(\tau, \tau_{uv})$$

# The Integral Is a Mock Modular Form

For  $\mathfrak{s} = \mathfrak{s}(\mathcal{J})$  we find:

$$Z_{\nu}^{CB} = \hat{g}_{\nu}(\tau_{uv}, \bar{\tau}_{uv}) \Theta_{L_-}(\tau_{uv}) / \eta^{2\chi}(\tau_{uv})$$

$$g_{\nu} = 3 \sum_{n \geq 0} H(4n - 2\mu) q_{uv}^{n - \frac{\nu}{2}}$$

... but other  $\mathfrak{s}$  generalize ...

For  $\mathbb{CP}^2$  &  $c_{uv} = 1$  (acs  $\Rightarrow c_{uv} = 3$ )

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{\tau}_{uv}} Z_\nu = y_{uv}^{-\frac{3}{2}} \eta^{-2} \widehat{E}_2 \Theta_\nu(-\bar{\tau}_{uv})$$



# Including Observables

$n$	Hol. part of $\eta(\tau_{uv})^6 \Phi_{1/2}^{\mathbb{P}^2}[u_D^n]$
0	$q_{uv}^{3/4} + 3 q_{uv}^{7/4} + 3 q_{uv}^{11/4} + 6 q_{uv}^{15/4} + \dots$
1	$-m^2 \left( \frac{3}{2} q_{uv}^{7/4} + 12 q_{uv}^{11/4} + 35 q_{uv}^{15/4} + \dots \right)$
2	$m^4 \left( \frac{19}{16} q_{uv}^{7/4} + \frac{31}{2} q_{uv}^{11/4} + 89 q_{uv}^{15/4} + \dots \right)$
3	$-m^6 \left( \frac{15}{4} q_{uv}^{11/4} + \frac{971}{16} q_{uv}^{15/4} + \dots \right)$
4	$m^8 \left( \frac{85}{32} q_{uv}^{11/4} - \frac{15151}{256} q_{uv}^{15/4} + \dots \right)$

1 Introduction & Preliminaries

2 Summary Of Main Claims

3 The  $N=2^*$  Theory: UV Meaning Of Invariants

4 Remarks On S-Duality Orbits Of Partition Functions

5 Coulomb Branch Integral: Measure & Evaluation

6 **LEET Near Cusps & Explicit Results**

# Contributions Of The Cusps $u_j$

Physics  $\Rightarrow$  Near each cusp  $u_j$ ,  $j = 1, 2, 3$   
the description of the vacuum changes:

We have a U(1) VM coupled to a charge 1 HM.  
(In the appropriate duality frame) [Seiberg-Witten 94]

There is a separate contribution to the path integral  
coming from the path integral of these three LEET.

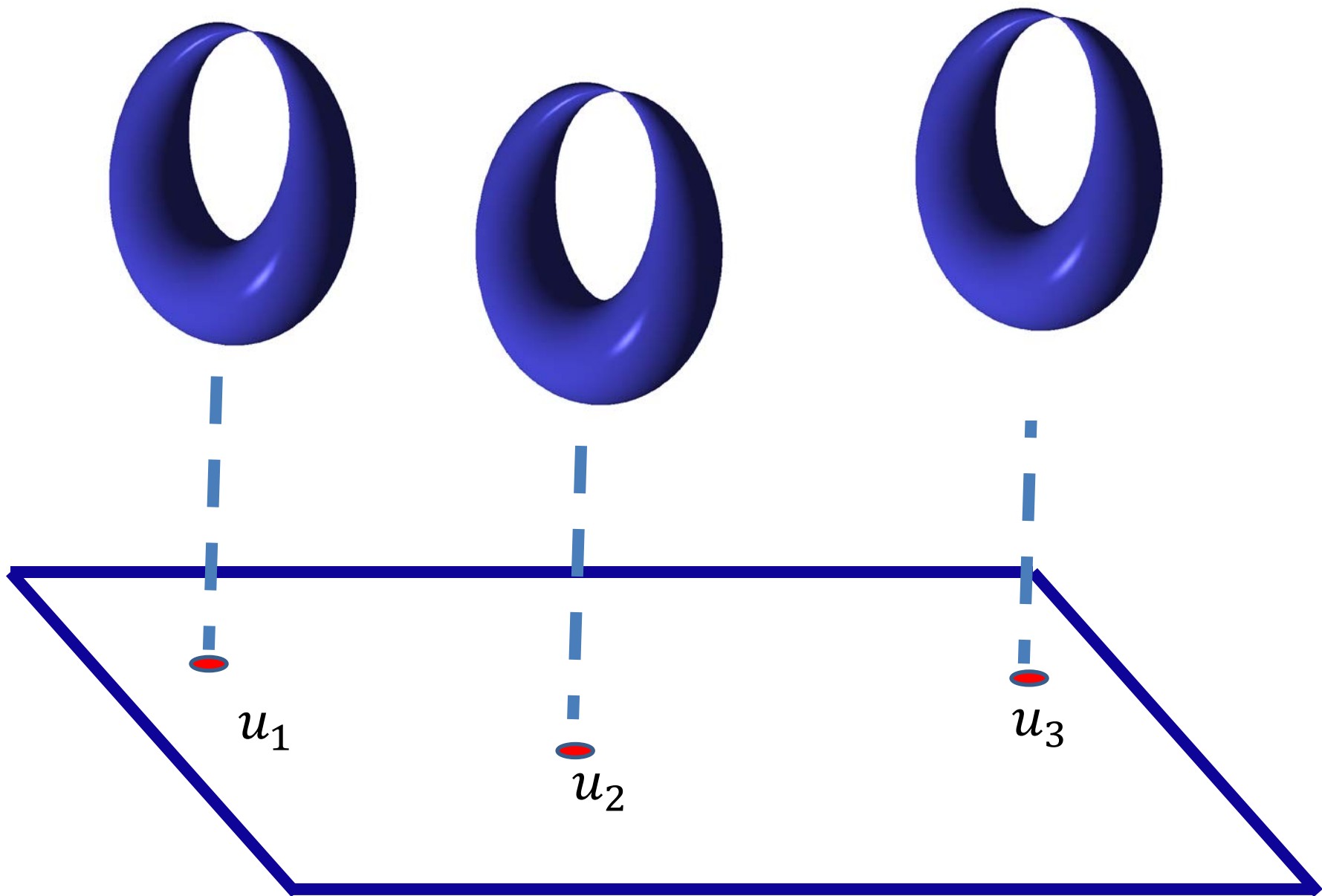
We add the contributions, because we sum over vacua:

$$Z_{\nu} = Z_{\nu}^{CB} + \sum_{j=1}^3 Z_{\nu,j}^{SW}$$

When  $b_2^+ > 1$   $Z_\nu^{\text{CB}}$  vanishes –  
- we get true topological invariants:

$$Z_\nu = \sum_{j=1}^3 Z_{\nu,j}^{\text{SW}}$$

So it is quite interesting to determine  
The three effective actions



$$u_j = m^2 e_j(\tau_0)$$

# General Form Of Effective Action Near $u_j$

$a$ : Local special coordinate vanishing at  $u_j$

$$S_j^{SW} = \int \sum_n \kappa_n(a; \tau_{uv}; t) \delta_n + Q(*)$$

$\delta_n$ : Possible local topological couplings

$$e^{-S_j^{SW}} \Big|_{\text{localize}} = \prod_n F_{n,j}(\tau_{uv}, t)^{\Delta_n}$$

# Possible Topological Couplings $\Delta_n$

$$X \Rightarrow \chi \quad \sigma$$

$$c_{uv}, \nu \Rightarrow c_{uv}^2 \quad c_{uv} \cdot \nu \quad \nu^2$$

$$c_{ir} \Rightarrow c_{ir}^2 \quad c_{ir} \cdot c_{uv} \quad c_{ir} \cdot \nu$$

$$S \Rightarrow S^2 \quad S \cdot c_{ir} \quad S \cdot c_{uv}$$

$p$

# Determination Of Effective Action

$$Z_{\nu,j}^{SW} = \sum_{c_{ir}} SW(c_{ir}) \prod_{n=1}^{12} F_{n,j}(\tau_{uv}; t)^{\Delta_n}$$

FINITE SUM!

MW97: The couplings  $\kappa_n$  at  $u_j$  can be determined from the wall-crossing behavior of  $Z_{\nu}^{CB}$  from  $u_j$



Explicit formulae!



# Comparison: Witten Conjecture

$$Z_{\nu}^{KMW}(p, S) = 2^{1+\kappa-\chi_h} e^{-\frac{i\pi}{2}\nu \cdot c_{uv}} [Z_{\nu,2}(p, S) + Z_{\nu,3}(p, S)]$$

$$\chi_h := \frac{\chi + \sigma}{4} \quad \kappa = 2\chi + 3\sigma$$

$$Z_{\nu,2}(p, S) = e^{\frac{1}{2}S^2 + p} \sum_{c_{ir}} SW(c_{ir}) e^{c_{ir} \cdot S} e^{\frac{i\pi}{2}\nu \cdot c_{ir}}$$

$$Z_{\nu,3}(p, S) = e^{-\frac{1}{2}S^2 - p} \sum_{c_{ir}} SW(c_{ir}) e^{-i c_{ir} \cdot S} e^{\frac{i\pi}{2}\nu \cdot c_{ir}}$$

$$Z_{\nu} = \sum_{j=1}^3 Z_{\nu,j}^{SW}$$

$$Z_{\nu,j}^{SW} = \sum_{C_{ir}} SW(C_{ir}) \prod_{n=1}^{12} F_{n,j}(\tau_{uv}; t)^{\Delta_n}$$

$$Z_{\nu,2}^{SW} = F_1^\ell F_2^{\chi h} F_3^\kappa \sum_{c_{ir}} SW(c_{ir}) F_4^{\left(\frac{c_{ir} + c_{uv}}{2}\right)^2}$$

$$F_1 = t^3 (\eta^4 (\tau_{uv}) \vartheta_3(\tau_{uv}/2))^{-1}$$

$$F_2 = (2 \eta^{12} (\tau_{uv}/2))^{-1}$$

$$F_4 = \vartheta_3(\tau_{uv}/2) / \vartheta_4(\tau_{uv}/2)$$

$$F_5^p \quad F_6^{S^2} \quad F_7^{S \cdot C_{uv}} \quad F_8^{S \cdot C_{ir}}$$

$$F_5^p = \exp \left( -\frac{t^2}{12} (\vartheta_2^4 + \vartheta_3^4) p \right)$$

$$F_8^{S \cdot C_{ir}} = \exp \left( -\frac{it}{4} (\vartheta_2 \vartheta_3)^2 S \cdot C_{ir} \right)$$

There are similar expressions  
for the other two cusps.

$$Z_{SW,1,\mu}(\tau_{uv}) = (-2\eta(2\tau_{uv})^{12})^{-\chi_h} \left( \frac{(\Lambda/m)^3}{4\eta(\tau_{uv})^4 \vartheta_3(2\tau_{uv})^4} \right)^\ell \left( \frac{\eta(\tau_{uv})^2}{\vartheta_3(2\tau_{uv})} \right)^\lambda$$

$$\times \sum_{\mathbf{x}=2\boldsymbol{\mu} \pmod{2L}} SW(c_{\text{ir}}) \left( \frac{\vartheta_3(2\tau_{uv})}{\vartheta_2(2\tau_{uv})} \right)^{\mathbf{x}^2}.$$

$$Z_{SW,3,\mu}(\tau_{uv}) = 2e^{2\pi i\mu^2} \left( \frac{-(\Lambda/m)^3}{\eta(\tau_{uv})^4 \vartheta_3((\tau_{uv}+1)/2)^4} \right)^\ell$$

$$\times (2\eta((\tau_{uv}+1)/2)^{12})^{-\chi_h} \left( \frac{2\eta(\tau_{uv})^2}{\vartheta_3((\tau_{uv}+1)/2)} \right)^\lambda$$

$$\times \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in L} SW(c_{\text{ir}}) (-1)^{2B(\mathbf{x},\boldsymbol{\mu})} \left( \frac{\vartheta_3((\tau_{uv}+1)/2)}{\vartheta_4((\tau_{uv}+1)/2)} \right)^{\mathbf{x}^2}.$$

# Relation To Previous Results

For  $\zeta(\mathcal{J})$  and  $m \rightarrow 0$  we recover and generalize formulae of [VW;DPS] for VW invariants.

For  $c_{uv} = 0$  we recover formulae of Labastida-Lozano

For  $m \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $q_{uv} \rightarrow 0$  after suitable renormalization we recover the “Witten conjecture” for the Donaldson invariants in terms of the Seiberg-Witten invariants.

Recover and generalize explicit evaluation of u-plane integral for  $\mathbb{C}P^2, S^2 \times S^2$  of Moore-Witten, Malmendier-Ono

A generalization and unification of the 1990’s formulae:

# VIRTUAL REFINEMENTS OF THE VAFA-WITTEN FORMULA

LOTHAR GÖTTSCHE AND MARTIJN KOOL

*with an appendix by Lothar Göttsche and Hiraku Nakajima*

## VERLINDE FORMULAE ON COMPLEX SURFACES I: *K*-THEORETIC INVARIANTS

L. GÖTTSCHE, M. KOOL, AND R. A. WILLIAMS

## REFINED $SU(3)$ VAFA-WITTEN INVARIANTS AND MODULARITY

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## VIRTUAL SEGRE AND VERLINDE NUMBERS OF PROJECTIVE SURFACES

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## SHEAVES ON SURFACES AND VIRTUAL INVARIANTS

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Concept	This paper	GKNW
Geometry	Smooth, compact four-manifold $X$ with $b_1 = 0$ of SW simple type	Projective complex surface $S$ with $b_2^+ > 1$ , $b_1 = 0$ of SW simple type
Mass/Scale	$m/\Lambda = t$	$t$
Modular parameter	$q_{uv}$	$x^4$
UV Spin-c structure	$c_{uv} \in \bar{w}_2(X) + H_2(X, 2\mathbb{Z})$	Canonical class $K_S$
IR Spin-c structure	$c_{ir} \in \bar{w}_2(X) + H_2(X, 2\mathbb{Z})$	SW basic class $K_S - 2a_i$
't Hooft flux	$2\mu \in H^2(X, \mathbb{Z})$	first Chern class $c_1$
0-observable	$p$	$-u$
2-observable	$S$	$i\alpha z$

**Table 9:** Dictionary between some of the concepts in this paper and in [13, 14, 85]



# $U(1)_b$ Localization

$$F^+ + [M, \bar{M}] = 0 \quad \mathbf{DM} = 0$$

Fixed point set for  $M \rightarrow e^{i\theta} M$  has TWO branches

Branch 1:  $\mathcal{M}_{asd}$ :  $M = 0$  &  $F^+ = 0$

Branch 2:  $\mathcal{M}_{ab}$ :  $M \sim \begin{pmatrix} 0 & * \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

$$U(1)_b: \int_{\mathcal{M}_{Q,k}} \dots \rightarrow \int_{\mathcal{M}_{asd,k}} \dots + \int_{\mathcal{M}_{ab}} \dots$$

$$\int_{\mathcal{M}_{asd}} \dots \sim Z_{\nu,2}^{SW} + Z_{\nu,3}^{SW}$$

$$\int_{\mathcal{M}_{ab}} \dots \sim Z_{\nu,1}^{SW}$$

# Concluding Remarks

Twisted  $N = 2^*$  on four-manifolds with a spin-c structure unifies and generalizes previous expressions for invariants of 4-manifolds derived from SYM.

Paper on the arXiv should appear ``soon.’’

Hamiltonian formulation (Floer theory)?

Derivation from 6d (2,0) theory?

Generalization of these techniques to class S

$X$  complex: Compute Refined Versions From Physics

REMARKS ON CLASS S:  
SLIDES FROM MY  
STRING MATH 2018  
TALK IN SENDAI, JAPAN

# Class S: General Remarks

$$\mathcal{H} = \alpha^\chi \beta^\sigma \det \left( \frac{da^i}{du_j} \right)^{1 - \frac{\chi}{2}} \Delta_{phys}^{\frac{\sigma}{8}}$$

$\Delta_{phys}$  a holomorphic function on  $\mathcal{B}$  with first-order zeros at the loci of massless BPS hypers

$\alpha, \beta$  will be automorphic forms on Teichmuller space of the UV curve  $\mathcal{C}$

$\alpha, \beta$  are related to correlation functions for fields in the (0,2) QFT gotten from reducing 6d (0,2)

# Class S: General Remarks

$$\Psi \sim \sum_{\lambda} e^{i\pi\lambda\cdot\xi} e^{-i\pi\bar{\tau}(\lambda_+, \lambda_+) - i\pi\tau(\lambda_- \cdot \lambda_-) + \dots}$$

$$\lambda \in \lambda_0 + \Gamma \otimes H^2(X; \mathbb{Z})$$

$$\Gamma \subset H^1(\Sigma; \mathbb{Z})$$

Lagrangian  
sublattice

$$\xi \in \Gamma \otimes H^2(X; \mathbb{R})$$

**If**  $\xi = \rho \otimes w_2(X) \bmod 2$  **then** WC from interior of  $\mathcal{B}$  will be cancelled by SW invariants

$\Rightarrow$  No new four-manifold invariants...



$\Psi$  comes from a “partition function” of a level 1 SD 3-form on  $M_6 = \Sigma \times X$

Quantization: Choose a QRIF  $\Omega$  on  $H^3(M_6; \mathbb{Z})$

**Natural choice:** [Witten 96,99; Belov-Moore 2004]

$$\Omega(x) = \exp\left( i \pi \text{WCS}(\theta \cup x; S^1 \times M_6) \right)$$

Choice of weak-coupling duality frame + natural choice of  $spin^c$  structure gives

$$\xi = \rho \otimes w_2(X)$$

**HOWEVER!**



# Need For U(1)-valued QRIF

$e^{i\pi\lambda\cdot\xi}$  is a 6d generalization of the famous Witten phase:  $(-1)^{w_2(X)\cdot\lambda}$

$$e^{\int \bar{v} F_b^+ F_{dyn}^+ + v F_b^- F_{dyn}^-} \rightarrow e^{i\pi \int w_2(X) \frac{F_{dyn}}{2\pi}}$$

So the  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -phase generalizes to a U(1)-valued phase.

Important implications for the generalization of CB integral to class S theories: We do not want a  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -valued QRIF.

$$\mathcal{N} = 2^* SU(2)$$

$SL(2)$  Hitchin system on  $E_{uv} = \mathbb{C}/(\mathbb{Z} + \tau_{uv}\mathbb{Z})$

Regular singularity at  $z = 0$

$$\text{Monodromy} \sim \begin{pmatrix} m & 0 \\ 0 & m^{-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

$\lambda$ : Liouville form pulled back to  
 $\Sigma \subset T^*E_{uv}$