

Quasimodular forms from Betti numbers

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Introduction

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- Refined genus 0 Gopakumar-Vafa invariants of $K_{\mathbb{P}^2}$.
- Conjecture of Huang-Klemm (around 2010) on the Nekrasov-Shatashvili limit of refined topological string theory on $K_{\mathbb{P}^2}$.

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- Form a generating series

$$\sum_n a_n q^n,$$

formal power series in a formal variable q .

Modularity

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- Writing $q = e^{2i\pi\tau}$, $f(\tau) := \sum_n a_n q^n$ is a holomorphic function on the upper half-plane $\mathbb{H} := \{\tau \in \mathbb{C} \mid \text{Im}\tau > 0\}$

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- Writing $q = e^{2i\pi\tau}$, $f(\tau) := \sum_n a_n q^n$ is a holomorphic function on the upper half-plane $\mathbb{H} := \{\tau \in \mathbb{C} \mid \text{Im}\tau > 0\}$
- Symmetry property of $f(\tau)$ with respect to the natural action of $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ on \mathbb{H} : $\tau \mapsto \frac{a\tau+b}{c\tau+d}$, $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{Z}$, $ad - bc = 1$. More precisely, $f(\tau)$ is modular of weight k for $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ if

$$f\left(\frac{a\tau + b}{c\tau + d}\right) = (c\tau + d)^k f(\tau),$$

for every

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

Variants:

- For Γ a subgroup of finite index in $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$, define modularity for Γ by restricting to elements

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in \Gamma$$

- The group $\Gamma := \Gamma_1(3)$ will appear later:

$$\Gamma_1(3) := \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in SL(2, \mathbb{Z}) \mid \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & * \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \pmod{3} \right\},$$

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- $f(\tau)$ is quasimodular of weight k for Γ if there exists finitely many non-zero holomorphic functions $f_j(\tau)$ such that

$$(c\tau + d)^{-k} f\left(\frac{a\tau + b}{c\tau + d}\right) = \sum_{j \geq 0} \left(\frac{c}{c\tau + d}\right)^j f_j(\tau)$$

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- Example:

$$E_2(\tau) := 1 - 24 \sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{nq^n}{1 - q^n}$$

is quasimodular of weight 2 for $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ (not modular).

Modularity

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$$A(\tau) := \left(\frac{\eta(\tau)^9}{\eta(3\tau)^3} + 27 \frac{\eta(3\tau)^9}{\eta(\tau)^3} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}}, \quad B(\tau) := \frac{1}{4} (E_2(\tau) + 3E_2(3\tau)),$$

$$C(\tau) := \frac{\eta(\tau)^9}{\eta(3\tau)^3},$$

where

$$\eta(\tau) := q^{\frac{1}{24}} \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - q^n),$$

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- The functions A , B , and C are quasimodular forms for $\Gamma_1(3)$. More precisely, A and C are modular respectively of weight 1 and 3, and B is quasimodular of weight 2. In fact, A , B , and C freely generate the ring of quasimodular forms of $\Gamma_1(3)$:

$$\text{QMod}(\Gamma_1(3)) = \mathbb{C}[A, B, C].$$

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- Compactification over $|\mathcal{O}(d)|$?

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- F coherent sheaf on \mathbb{P}^2 with one-dimensional support is called Gieseker semistable (resp. stable) if F is pure (every non-zero subsheaf of F has one-dimensional support) and, for every non-zero strict subsheaf F' of F , we have $\frac{\chi(F')}{d(F')} \leq \frac{\chi(F)}{d(F)}$ (resp. $\frac{\chi(F')}{d(F')} < \frac{\chi(F)}{d(F)}$).

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- Moduli space (good moduli space for the Artin stack of Gieseker semistable sheaves):

$M_{d,n} = \{S\text{-equivalence classes of Gieseker semistable coherent sheaves}$

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- The global topology of $M_{d,n}$ is non-trivial.
- Betti numbers $b_j(M_{d,n})$ (for the intersection cohomology if $M_{d,n}$ is singular). It is known that $b_j(M_{d,n})$ only depends on $n \bmod d$. Conjecturally, $b_j(M_{d,n})$ is independent of n .

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- Define

$$b_j(M_d) := \frac{1}{d} \sum_{n \bmod d} b_j(M_{d,n}).$$

- $\sum_j b_j(M_1)y^{\frac{j}{2}} = 1 + y + y^2$

Examples

- $\sum_j b_j(M_1)y^{\frac{j}{2}} = 1 + y + y^2$
- $\sum_j b_j(M_2)y^{\frac{j}{2}} = 1 + y + y^2 + y^3 + y^4 + y^5$

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- $\sum_j b_j(M_4)y^{\frac{j}{2}} = 1 + 2y + 6y^2 + 10y^3 + 14y^4 + 15y^5 + 16y^6 + 16y^7 + 16y^8 + 16y^9 + 16y^{10} + 16y^{11} + 15y^{12} + 14y^{13} + 10y^{14} + 6y^{15} + 2y^{16} + y^{17}$

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- Connection between intersection cohomology and DT invariants under the Ext^2 -vanishing assumption: Meinhardt-Reineke, Meinhardt.
- $b_j(M_{d,n})$ are refined DT invariants of the non-compact Calabi-Yau 3-fold $K_{\mathbb{P}^2}$.

- Unrefined limit: replace Betti numbers by Euler characteristic.

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- $n_{0,1}^{K_{\mathbb{P}^2}} = 3$, $n_{0,2}^{K_{\mathbb{P}^2}} = -6$, $n_{0,3}^{K_{\mathbb{P}^2}} = 27$, $n_{0,4}^{K_{\mathbb{P}^2}} = -192$.

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- $n_{0,1}^{K_{\mathbb{P}^2}} = 3$, $n_{0,2}^{K_{\mathbb{P}^2}} = -6$, $n_{0,3}^{K_{\mathbb{P}^2}} = 27$, $n_{0,4}^{K_{\mathbb{P}^2}} = -192$.
- Think about $\sum_j b_j(M_d)y^{\frac{j}{2}}$ as a refined genus 0 Gopakumar-Vafa invariant.

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- 'Almost obvious' generating series (from the DT point of view)

$$i \sum_{d \geq 1} \sum_{\ell \geq 1} \frac{(-1)^{d-1} y^{-\frac{\ell}{2}(d^2+1)} \sum_j b_j(M_d) y^{\frac{j}{2}}}{\ell (y^{\frac{\ell}{2}} - y^{-\frac{\ell}{2}})} Q^{\ell d}$$

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- Not obvious step at all (string theory prediction of Huang and Klemm): write $y = e^{i\hbar}$ and expand in powers of \hbar .

Theorem: Quasimodularity

Define series $F_g^{NS}(Q) \in \mathbb{Q}[[Q]]$ by the change of variables
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Theorem [B., Fan, Guo, Wu, 2020]

- F_0^{NS} and F_1^{NS} can be 'explicitly' computed.
- There exists an explicit change of variables $Q \mapsto q = e^{2i\pi\tau}$ such that, for every $g \geq 2$, $F_g^{NS}(\tau)$ is a weight 0 quasimodular function for $\Gamma_1(3)$.

Theorem: Quasimodularity

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More precisely, for every $g \geq 2$, we have

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Example:

$$F_2^{NS} = \frac{1}{11520C^2} (-37A^6 + 5A^4B + 48A^3C - 16C^2).$$

Theorem: Holomorphic anomaly equation

Theorem [B., Fan, Guo, Wu, 2020]

For every $g \geq 2$, we have

$$2 \frac{\partial}{\partial B} F_g^{NS} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^{g-1} \left(Q \frac{d}{dQ} F_j^{NS} \right) \left(Q \frac{d}{dQ} F_{g-j}^{NS} \right).$$

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- First mathematical result in the ‘refined’ direction.
- Unrefined topological string: higher genus Gromov-Witten theory of $K_{\mathbb{P}^2}$. Generating series of genus g Gromov-Witten invariants of $K_{\mathbb{P}^2}$:

$$F_g^{GW}(Q) := \sum_{d \geq 1} N_{g,d}^{GW, K_{\mathbb{P}^2}} Q^d.$$

Theorem (Lho-Pandharipande, Coates-Iritani, 2017-2018)

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Example:

$$F_2^{GW} = \frac{1}{8640C^2} (-8A^6 + 30A^4B - 45A^2B^2 + 25B^3 + 2A^3C - 4C^2)$$

- Gromov–Witten/stable pairs correspondence (MNOP), the series $\bar{F}_g^{K_{\mathbb{P}^2}}$ can be described in terms of the stable pairs invariants $P_{d,n}$ of $K_{\mathbb{P}^2}$:

$$1 + \sum_{d \geq 1} \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} P_{d,n} (-x)^n Q^d = \exp \left(\sum_{g \geq 0} F_g^{GW} u^{2g-2} \right)$$

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- The stable pairs invariants $P_{d,n}$ are expected to admit a refinement $P_{d,n,j}$ (various approaches: cohomological, K-theoretic...) The refined topological string free energies $F_{g_1, g_2}^{K_{\mathbb{P}^2}, \text{ref}}$ are then defined by the expansion

$$1 + \sum_{d \geq 1} \sum_{n, j \in \mathbb{Z}} P_{d,n,j} y^j (-x)^n Q^d = \exp \left(\sum_{g \geq 0} F_{g_1, g_2}^{\text{ref}} (\epsilon_1 + \epsilon_2)^{2g_1} (-\epsilon_1 \epsilon_2)^{g_2 - 1} \right) \quad (1)$$

where $x = e^{i \frac{\epsilon_1 - \epsilon_2}{2}}$ and $y = e^{i \frac{\epsilon_1 + \epsilon_2}{2}}$.

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- Genus-0/Nekrasov-Shatashvili limit: (conjectural) description in terms of moduli spaces of one-dimensional sheaves, $F_{g,0}^{\text{ref}} = F_g^{\text{NS}}$.
- Remark: $F_{0,0}^{\text{ref}} = F_0^{\text{GW}} = F_0^{\text{NS}}$.

Conjecture (Huang-Klemm, 2010)

- After the change of variables $Q \mapsto q = e^{2i\pi\tau}$, for every g_1, g_2 with $g_1 + g_2 \geq 2$, $F_{g_1, g_2}^{\text{ref}}(\tau)$ is a weight 0 quasimodular function for $\Gamma_1(3)$:
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- For every g_1, g_2 with $g_1 + g_2 \geq 2$, we have

$$2 \frac{\partial}{\partial B} F_{g_1, g_2}^{\text{ref}} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\substack{0 \leq j_1 \leq g_1 \\ 0 \leq j_2 \leq g_2 \\ (j_1, j_2) \neq (0, 0) \\ (j_1, j_2) \neq (g_1, g_2)}}^{g-1} \left(Q \frac{d}{dQ} F_{j_1, j_2}^{\text{ref}} \right) \left(Q \frac{d}{dQ} F_{(g_1-j_1, g_2-j_2)}^{\text{ref}} \right) \\ + \frac{1}{2} \left(Q \frac{d}{dQ} \right)^2 F_{g_1, g_2-1}^{\text{GW}}.$$

Why does it seem difficult ?

- The proof of quasimodularity and holomorphic anomaly equation for $F_{0,g}^{\text{ref}} = F_g^{\text{GW}}$ (Lho-Pandharipande, Coates-Iritani) uses the Gromov-Witten side, where the parameter g has a clear geometric meaning as genus parameter. No known proof starting from the sheaf side.

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- In general, $F_{(g_1,g_2)}^{\text{ref}}$ is defined via the sheaf side and exponential changes of variables. The geometric interpretation of the parameters g_1 and g_2 is unclear.
- It would be useful to have a Gromov-Witten-like interpretation of the series $F_{(g_1,g_2)}^{\text{ref}}$. “No known worldsheet definition of the refined topological string”.

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- We don't know how to do that for $F_{g_1, g_2}^{\text{ref}}$ with $(g_1, g_2) \neq 0$
- How to find a Gromov-Witten definition of F_g^{NS} ? We know that it is not Gromov-Witten theory of $K_{\mathbb{P}^2}$: $F_g^{NS} \neq F_g^{GW}$. Need to look at Gromov-Witten theory of a different geometry.

New geometry

- New geometry: fix E a smooth cubic curve in \mathbb{P}^2 .

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- $N_{g,d}$: Gromov-Witten invariant for genus g degree d curves in \mathbb{P}^2 intersecting E in a single point, viewed in the relative Calabi-Yau 3-fold $\mathbb{P}^2 \times \mathbb{A}^1 / E \times \mathbb{A}^1$.

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- Correspondence between refined DT invariants and higher genus GW invariants of two different geometries (different from previously known GW/DT correspondence).

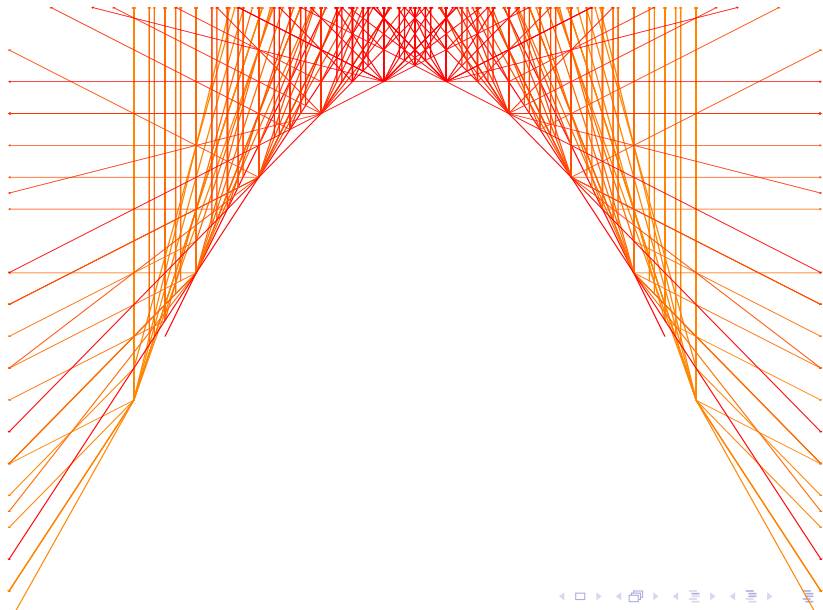
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- Scattering diagram: collections of rays decorated with generated functions, algorithmically produced from initial rays.
- The same algorithm compute the sheaf and the Gromov-Witten sides.

Scattering diagram



Algorithm on the sheaf side

- Compute the Betti numbers $b_j(M_d)$ by moving in the space of Bridgeland stability conditions on $D^b \text{Coh}(\mathbb{P}^2)$ and applying the Kontsevich-Soibelman formula (natural from the DT Calabi-Yau 3-dimensional point of view).

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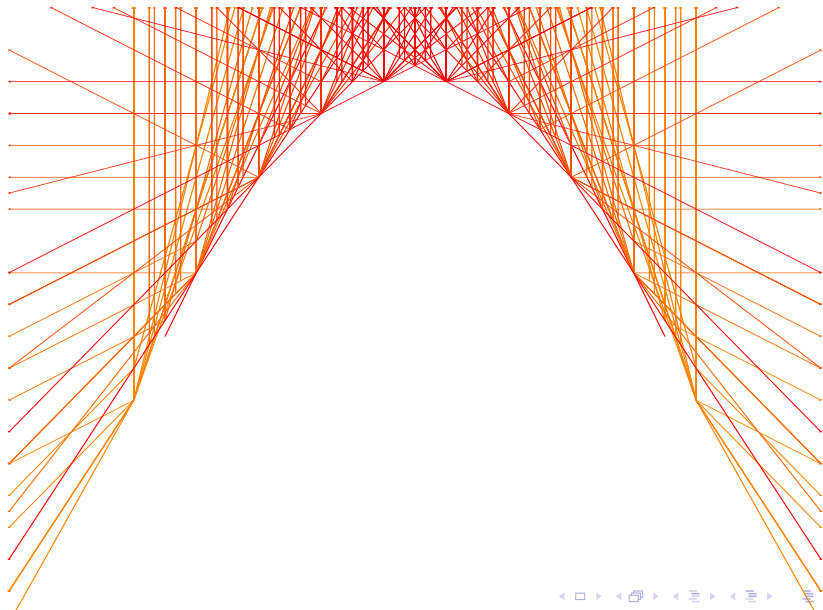
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- Scattering diagram: organization of moves in the space of stability conditions.

- Compute the Gromov-Witten $N_{g,d}$ using tropical geometry (combinatorial description of degenerations). Holomorphic curves degenerate to tropical curves.
- Correspondence theorem between counts of holomorphic maps and counts of tropical maps (Mikhalkin, Nishinou-Siebert, Gabele for $g = 0$, B. for $g > 0$).
- Scattering diagram: organization of the tropical computation.

Scattering diagram



Modularity from the Gromov-Witten side (with Fan, Guo, Wu, 2020)

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- Degeneration argument. Degeneration of \mathbb{P}^2 to the normal cone of E . Line bundle defined by the family of divisors E . General fiber: $K_{\mathbb{P}^2} = \mathcal{O}(-E)$. Special fiber: $\mathbb{P}^2 \times \mathbb{A}^1$, glued along $E \times \mathbb{A}^1$ to a non-trivial line bundle over $\mathbb{P}(N_{E|\mathbb{P}^2} \oplus \mathcal{O})$.

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- Localization on the bubble $\mathbb{P}(N_{E|\mathbb{P}^2} \oplus \mathcal{O})$: reduction to equivariant Gromov-Witten theory of $N_{E|\mathbb{P}^2} \oplus N_{E|\mathbb{P}^2}^\vee \rightarrow E$ with stationary descendent insertions.

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- Use Grothendieck-Riemann-Roch (in Coates-Givental form) to reduce to Gromov-Witten theory of E with stationary descendent insertions.

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$$F_g^{GW} = (-1)^g F_g^{NS} + \sum_{n \geq 0} \sum_{\substack{g=h+g_1+\dots+g_n, \\ \mathbf{a}=(a_1, \dots, a_n) \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^n \\ (a_j, g_j) \neq (0,0), \sum_{j=1}^n a_j = 2h-2}} \frac{(-1)^{h-1} F_{h,\mathbf{a}}^E}{|\text{Aut}(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{g})|} \prod_{j=1}^n (-1)^{g_j-1} D^{a_j+2} F_{g_j}^{NS}.$$

- $F_{h,\mathbf{a}}^E$: Gromov-Witten theory of E with stationary descendent insertions.

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- Use quasimodularity and holomorphic anomaly equation for Gromov-Witten invariants of $K_{\mathbb{P}^2}$ (Lho-Pandharipande, Coates-Iritani, 2018).
- Slightly miraculous combination of these modularity results gives the desired result.

Thank you for your attention !