

# ON TOPOLOGICAL APPROACH TO LOCAL THEORY OF SURFACES IN CALABI-YAU THREEFOLDS

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ABSTRACT. We study the web of dualities relating various enumerative invariants, notably Gromov-Witten invariants and invariants that arise in topological gauge theory. In particular, we study Donaldson-Thomas gauge theory and its reductions to  $D = 4$  and  $D = 2$  which are relevant to the local theory of surfaces in Calabi-Yau threefolds.

## CONTENTS

1. Introduction	2
Acknowledgements	2
2. Preliminaries	3
2.1. Gromov-Witten theory	3
2.2. Donaldson-Thomas theory	6
2.3. Seiberg-Witten theory	9
3. Dimensional reduction of DT theory to 4d Vafa-Witten theory	12
3.1. Dimensional reduction of DT theory on an elliptic fibration	12
3.2. Abelian Vafa-Witten theory	13
3.3. Examples and applications	14
3.4. Abelian DT theory and GW theory on a trivial elliptic fibration	14
3.5. Half K3	17
3.6. Dimensional reduction of DT theory on a local surface	21
4. Dimensional reduction of DT theory to 2d $\sigma$ -model	23
4.1. Topological reduction	23
4.2. Moduli spaces of instantons and correlation functions	24
4.3. Abelian theory	27
5. Dimensional reduction of torsion DT theory	29
5.1. Seiberg-Witten invariants via Mochizuki's wall crossing	29
5.2. Torsion DT invariants and Seiberg-Witten theory	31
References	33

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Not so long ago, enumerative invariants were completely unfamiliar to physicists and were regarded more as a curiosity rather than serious mathematics in the math world. At present, enumerative invariants are heavily used in theoretical physics and play a major role in many branches of pure mathematics: symplectic geometry, algebraic geometry, mirror symmetry, and gauge theory.

In gauge theory, the prominent examples of enumerative invariants are Donaldson polynomials and Seiberg-Witten invariants, which help to distinguish different smooth structures on 4-manifolds. In recent years, other 4-manifold invariants have been introduced by changing the gauge theory (the PDE's and the "counting" problem) or, by changing dimension, similar gauge theory invariants were defined on higher-dimensional manifolds. Notable examples include Donaldson-Thomas (DT) invariants which, roughly speaking, can be viewed as six-dimensional analogues of Donaldson invariants on 4-manifolds [25].

In symplectic geometry and mirror symmetry, enumerative invariants play an equally important role; it is almost impossible to imagine these fields without enumerative invariants. Most of the original versions of such invariants were based on the problem of curve "counting" of some form. More recently, however, this was generalized to a much larger framework where the role of curves is less special and, in the same time, the borderline between gauge theory and symplectic/algebraic geometry started to blur. For example, Donaldson-Thomas invariants that we mentioned earlier and that originally were introduced via gauge theory, nowadays are actually more widely regarded as part of algebraic geometry and mirror symmetry, since they are defined as the intersection numbers over the moduli space of sheaves (say for example the ideal sheaves of one dimensional subschemes of the ambient variety).

String theory also stimulated the process of erasing borders. It led to many dualities which relate enumerative invariants in different dimensions and even across the fields. For example, gauge theory itself appears in string theory through *open* strings, whereas curve counting (Gromov-Witten theory) is naturally a part of the *closed* string theory. Therefore, string dualities which relate open and closed strings (also known as gauge/gravity dualities) provide a fundamental, conceptual reason why one might hope to have a relation between gauge theory enumerative invariants and, say, Gromov-Witten invariants.

In this paper, we explore a rich web of inter-relations and dualities between different enumerative invariants.

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## 2. PRELIMINARIES

### 2.1. Gromov-Witten theory.

2.1.1. *Gromov-Witten invariants and Taubes’s Gromov invariants of symplectic 4-manifolds.* In this subsection, we briefly review certain Gromov-Witten invariants of compact symplectic 4-manifolds and Taubes’s Gromov invariants [83, 42].

Let  $(S, \omega)$  be a compact symplectic 4-manifold with an almost complex structure  $J$  compatible with the symplectic structure  $\omega$ , so that  $(S, \omega, J)$  is an almost Kähler manifold. If  $J$  is integrable then  $(S, \omega, J)$  is a Kähler manifold.

Let  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}(S, \beta)$  be the moduli space of genus  $g$ , degree  $\beta \in H_2(S; \mathbb{Z})$  stable maps to  $(S, \omega, J)$ . The virtual dimension of  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}(S, \beta)$  is given by

$$\int_{\beta} c_1(S) + g - 1 + n = -K_S \cdot \beta + g - 1 + n,$$

where  $K_S$  is the canonical class of  $S$ .

Let  $\nu \in H^4(S; \mathbb{Z})$  be the Poicare dual of the class of a point. We define

$$(1) \quad N_{g,\beta}^S := \begin{cases} \int_{[\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}(S,\beta)]^{\text{vir}}} \prod_{i=1}^n \text{ev}_i^*(\nu), & \text{if } n = -K_S \cdot \beta + g - 1 \geq 0, \\ 0, & \text{if } -K_S \cdot \beta + g - 1 < 0, \end{cases}$$

where  $\text{ev}_i : \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}(S, \beta) \rightarrow S$  is the evaluation at the  $i$ -th marked point. By the divisor equation, any genus  $g$ , degree  $\beta$  primary Gromov-Witten invariants of  $S$  can be reduced to  $N_{g,\beta}^S$ . In general, Gromov-Witten invariants count connected parametrized curves, and are rational numbers instead of integers.

By adjunction formula, the genus of a connected, embedded smooth  $J$ -holomorphic curve in class  $\beta \in H_2(S; \mathbb{Z})$  is given by

$$1 + \frac{1}{2}(\beta \cdot \beta + K_S \cdot \beta).$$

Gromov invariant  $N_{g,\beta}^S$  counts connected embedded curves of genus  $g$  in class  $\beta$  passing through  $n$  generic points if the following three conditions holds:

$$(1) \quad g = 1 + \frac{1}{2}(\beta \cdot \beta + K_S \cdot \beta).$$

- (2)  $n = \frac{1}{2}(\beta \cdot \beta - K_S \cdot \beta) \geq 0$ .  
(3)  $\beta \notin T$ , where  $T = \{\beta \in H_2(S, \mathbb{Z}) \mid \beta \cdot K_S = \beta \cdot \beta = 0\}$  is the set of toroidal casses.

When the above conditions hold, the moduli space of  $J$ -holomorphic curves of genus  $g$  in class  $\beta$  passing through  $n$  points contains no multiply covered curves for generic  $J$  (see Ruan [81], Taubes [83]). By [42, Section 4],

$$N_{g,\beta}^S = \widehat{Gr}_S(\beta)$$

where  $\widehat{Gr}_S(\beta)$  is the connected version of Taubes's Gromov invariant in class  $\beta$ . Taube's Gromov invariant  $Gr_S(\beta)$ , which counts possibly disconnected curves, is equivalent to certain Seiberg-Witten invariant by Taubes's famous theorem.

In this paper, we will assume  $J$  is integrable, so that the pair  $(\omega, J)$  is a Kähler structure on  $S$ .

2.1.2. *Non-equivariant local Gromov-Witten invariants of surfaces in a Calabi-Yau threefold.* Let  $S$  be a projective Fano surface, and let  $X_S$  be the total space of the canonical line bundle  $K_S$  over  $S$ . Then  $X_S$  is a noncompact Calabi-Yau 3-fold. Given any nonzero  $\beta \in H_2(S; \mathbb{Z}) \cong H_2(X_S; \mathbb{Z})$ , we have

$$\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(X_S, \beta) = \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(S, \beta)$$

as Deligne-Mumford stacks. The virtual dimensions of the perfect obstruction theories on  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(X_S, \beta)$  and on  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(S, \beta)$  are 0 and  $-K_S \cdot \beta + g - 1$ , respectively, and

$$N_{g,\beta}^{X_S} = \int_{[\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(X_S, \beta)]^{\text{vir}}} 1 = \int_{[\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(S, \beta)]^{\text{vir}}} e(V_{g,\beta})$$

is the genus  $g$ , degree  $\beta$  Gromov-Witten invariant of  $X_S$ , where  $V_{g,\beta}$  is a rank  $-K_S \cdot \beta + g - 1$  vector bundle over  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(S, \beta)$  whose fiber over  $[f : C \rightarrow S]$  is  $H^1(C, f^*K_S)$ . Note that because  $\beta$  is nonzero and  $-K_S$  is ample, we have  $\deg(f^*K_S) < 0$ , so  $H^0(C, f^*K_S) = 0$ . (See [16, Section 5.2].) The invariants  $N_{g,\beta}^{X_S}$  can be viewed as local invariants of the Fano surfaces  $S$  in a Calabi-Yau 3-fold.

When  $S$  is projective but not Fano, the Gromov-Witten invariants of  $X_S$  are not necessarily defined, due to the non-compactness of moduli spaces  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(X_S, \beta)$ . Observe that, when the class  $\beta$  satisfies  $-K_S \cdot \beta > 0$ ,  $V_{g,\beta}$  is a rank  $-K_S \cdot \beta + g - 1$  vector bundle over  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(S, \beta)$ . This allows us to define the genus  $g$ , degree  $\beta$  Gromov-Witten invariant of  $X_S$  by

$$(2) \quad N_{g,\beta}^{X_S} := \int_{[\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(S, \beta)]^{\text{vir}}} e(V_{g,\beta}).$$

Note that  $e(V_{g,\beta}) = 1$  if and only if  $H^1(C, f^*K_S) = 0$  for all  $[f : C \rightarrow X_S] \in \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(S, \beta)$ . In this case

$$\int_{[\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(X_S, \beta)]^{\text{vir}}} 1 = \int_{[\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(S, \beta)]^{\text{vir}}} 1$$

is also the genus  $g$ , degree  $\beta$  Gromov-Witten invariant of the surface  $S$ . We have

$$-K_S \cdot \beta + g - 1 = 0$$

where  $-K_S \cdot \beta > 0$ , so we must have  $g = 0$  and  $K_S \cdot \beta = -1$ . We summarize the above discussion in the following lemma.

**Lemma 1.** *Let  $S$  be a projective surface, and suppose  $\beta \in H_2(S, \mathbb{Z})$  satisfies  $K_S \cdot \beta = -1$ . Then*

$$N_{0,\beta}^{X_S} = N_{0,\beta}^S$$

where the left hand side is defined by (2) and the right hand side is defined as in Section 2.1.1.

In the remainder of this subsection, we assume

$$S \text{ is Fano, } g = 0, \quad K_S \cdot \beta = -1.$$

Then a curve in class  $\beta$  cannot be multiply covered. We claim that there is no bubbling. Indeed if  $\beta = \beta_1 + \beta_2$  where  $\beta_1, \beta_2$  are nonzero effective class, we have  $-K_S \cdot \beta_i > 0$  for  $i = 1, 2$  so  $-K_S \cdot \beta \geq 2$ , which is a contradiction. Similarly,  $\beta$  cannot be represented by a disconnected holomorphic curve. Combining the above discussion and the discussion Section 2.1.1, we conclude:

**Lemma 2.** *Let  $S$  be a Fano surface, and suppose that  $\beta \in H_2(S, \mathbb{Z})$  satisfies*

$$K_S \cdot \beta = \beta \cdot \beta = -1.$$

Then

$$N_{0,\beta}^{X_S} = N_{0,\beta}^S = \widehat{Gr}_S(\beta) = Gr_S(\beta).$$

Let  $B_k$  denote  $\mathbb{P}^2$  blowup at  $k$  generic points. By classification of surfaces, Fano surfaces are:  $\mathbb{P}^2$ ,  $\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1$ , and del Pezzo surfaces  $B_k$  where  $1 \leq k \leq 8$ . If  $S = \mathbb{P}^2$  or  $\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1$  then there is no class  $\beta$  satisfying  $K_S \cdot \beta = -1$ . If  $S = B_k$  and  $e_1, \dots, e_k \in H_2(S, \mathbb{Z})$  are classes of exceptional divisors, then  $K_S \cdot e_i = e_i \cdot e_i = -1$ .

2.1.3. *Equivariant local Gromov-Witten invariants of surfaces in a Calabi-Yau threefold.* It is possible to define *residue invariants* in the presence of a torus action [15, Section 2.1]. We first consider the special case of toric surfaces. We have

$$N_{g,\beta}^{X_S} = \int_{[\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(X_S, \beta)]^{\text{vir}}} 1 = \int_{[\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(X_S, \beta)^T]^{\text{vir}}} \frac{1}{e_T(N^{\text{vir}})}.$$

where  $T$  acts on  $X_S$ , and  $e_T(N^{\text{vir}})$  is the  $T$ -equivariant Euler class of the virtual normal bundle of  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(X_S, \beta)^T$  in  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(X_S, \beta)$ . When the  $T$ -action on  $X_S$  induced from a  $T$ -action on the base  $S$ , so that the  $T$ -action on  $X_S$  acts trivially on the canonical line bundle of the toric threefold  $X_S$ , these invariants can be evaluated by the algorithm of the topological vertex [2]. Indeed, for local toric surfaces, only 2-leg vertex is needed; the algorithm in this case is described in [4]. The topological vertex is proved in the 1-leg case

in [59, 78] and the 2-leg case in [60, 56]. The full 3-leg case is a consequence of the proof of the GW/DT correspondence of toric 3-folds in [66].

In general, if there is a torus action on  $X_S$  such that  $X_S^T$  is contained in the zero section  $S$  and  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(X_S, \beta)^T = \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(S, \beta)^T$  is compact, we define

$$(3) \quad N_{g,\beta}^{X_S}(t_1, \dots, t_r) = \int_{[\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(X_S, \beta)^T]^{\text{vir}}} \frac{1}{e_T(N^{\text{vir}})} \in \mathbb{Q}(t_1, \dots, t_r)$$

where  $t_1, \dots, t_r$  are the generators of the  $T = (\mathbb{C}^*)^r$  equivariant cohomology of a point. Alternatively,

$$(4) \quad N_{g,\beta}^{X_S}(t_1, \dots, t_r) = \int_{[\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(S, \beta)^T]^{\text{vir}}} \frac{e_T(H^1)/e_T(H^0)}{e_T(N^{\text{vir}})} \in \mathbb{Q}(t_1, \dots, t_r)$$

where  $e_T(N^{\text{vir}})$  is the  $T$ -equivariant Euler class of the virtual normal bundle of  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(S, \beta)^T$  in  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(S, \beta)$ . Here  $H^1$  and  $H^0$  are vector bundles on each connected component of  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(S, \beta)^T$ , and their fibres over  $[f : C \rightarrow S]$  are  $H^1(C, f^*K_S)$  and  $H^0(C, f^*K_S)$ , respectively.

**2.2. Donaldson-Thomas theory.** We consider a general gauge group  $G$  which can be any compact connected Lie group. The complexification  $G^{\mathbb{C}}$  of  $G$  is a connected reductive complex algebraic group. For example, when  $G = U(N)$ , we have  $G^{\mathbb{C}} = GL(N, \mathbb{C})$ . The space of connections on a principal  $G$ -bundle  $P$  over a Kähler manifold can be identified with the space of  $\bar{\partial}$ -operators on the principal  $G^{\mathbb{C}}$  bundle  $P^{\mathbb{C}} = P \times_G G^{\mathbb{C}}$ .

The Donaldson-Thomas theory is a topological gauge theory defined on a complex Kahler 3-fold  $X$  which, roughly speaking, “counts” solutions to the Hermitian Yang-Mills (HYM) equations (see e.g. [1, Definition 3.2]):

$$(5) \quad F_A^{0,2} = 0, \quad \text{Tr}_{k_0} F_A^{1,1} = \tau.$$

where  $A \in \Omega_X^1(\text{ad}P)$  is the gauge connection,  $k_0$  is the Kähler form on  $X$ , and  $\tau$  is an element in the center of the Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$  of  $G$ . For example,  $\tau = 0$  if  $G$  is semisimple, and  $\tau$  is a multiple of the identity element if  $G = U(N)$ .

This six-dimensional TQFT can be obtained by a topological twist of the dimensional reduction of the ten-dimensional super-Yang-Mills [6, 3, 12, 25, 10, 44]. Under the reduction,

$$SO(10) \rightarrow SO(6) \times SO(4)$$

and bosonic/fermionic fields decompose as

$$(6) \quad \begin{array}{ll} \text{bosons :} & \mathbf{10} \rightarrow (\mathbf{6}, \mathbf{1}) \oplus (\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{4}) \\ \text{fermions :} & \mathbf{16} \rightarrow (\mathbf{4}, \mathbf{2}) \oplus (\bar{\mathbf{4}}, \bar{\mathbf{2}}) \end{array}$$

In addition, if  $X$  is Kähler, we have  $SO(6) \rightarrow U(3) \cong SU(3) \times U(1)$ . The twisted six-dimensional gauge theory is obtained by mixing the last  $U(1)$  factor with  $U(1) \subset SO(4)$ . As a result, one finds a theory with  $\mathcal{N}_T = 2$  topological supersymmetries (nilpotent BRST symmetries) and the following field content:

bosonic:	1-form	$A$	
	(3, 0)-form	$\varphi$	
	complex scalar	$\phi, \bar{\phi}$	
fermionic:	1-form	$\psi^{1,0}, \psi^{0,1}$	3+3
	2-form	$\chi^{2,0}, \chi^{0,2}$	3+3
	3-form	$\psi^{3,0}, \psi^{0,3}$	1+1
	two scalars	$\eta, \bar{\eta}$	1+1

where all fields transform in the adjoint representation of the gauge group  $G$  and in the last column we counted the number of real components. Notice that, altogether, the fermionic fields contain 16 real components. If  $X$  is a Calabi-Yau space, the resulting theory has  $\mathcal{N}_T = 4$  topological supersymmetries.

The partition function of the six-dimensional topological gauge theory localizes on the solutions to the following equations

$$(7) \quad \begin{aligned} F_A^{0,2} &= \bar{\partial}_A^\dagger \bar{\varphi} \\ \mathrm{Tr}_{k_0} F_A^{1,1} + *[\varphi, \bar{\varphi}] &= \tau \\ d_A \phi &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

where the first two equations can be recognized as perturbations of the HYM equations (5). The Bianchi identity and the first equation imply  $\bar{\partial}_A \bar{\partial}_A^\dagger \bar{\varphi} = 0$ , so when  $X$  is compact, the first equation is decoupled into two equations  $\bar{\partial}_A^\dagger \bar{\varphi} = 0$  and  $F_A^{0,2} = 0$ , and the path integral localizes on the solutions to

$$(8) \quad \bar{\partial}_A^\dagger \bar{\varphi} = 0, \quad F_A^{0,2} = 0, \quad \mathrm{Tr}_{k_0} F_A^{1,1} + *[\varphi, \bar{\varphi}] = \tau$$

Note that the solutions to the HYM equations (5) are also solutions to (8). In [37], the moduli space defined by (8) is called the *extended* moduli space of Einstein-Hermitian (i.e. HYM) connections. We have

$$\mathcal{M}_{\mathrm{HYM}}(X, G) \subset \mathcal{M}_{\mathrm{DT}}(X, G),$$

where  $\mathcal{M}_{\mathrm{HYM}}(X, G)$  and  $\mathcal{M}_{\mathrm{DT}}(X, G)$  are moduli spaces of solutions to (5) and (8), respectively. Given a holomorphic structure, the space of solutions to  $\bar{\partial}_A^\dagger \bar{\varphi} = 0$  can be identified with  $H^0(X, K_X \otimes \mathrm{ad}(P)) = H^3(X, \mathrm{ad}(P))^\vee$ .

When  $X$  is Calabi-Yau,  $\varphi$  can be viewed as an element of  $H^0(X, \mathrm{ad}(P))$ . If  $P$  is stable, then  $\varphi$  lies in the center  $Z(\mathfrak{g})$  of  $\mathfrak{g}$ , so  $[\varphi, \bar{\varphi}] = 0$ , so the second and third equations in (8) become the HYM equations (5). For example,  $Z(\mathfrak{su}(N))$  is trivial, and  $Z(\mathfrak{u}(N))$  is spanned by the identity matrix. When  $X$  is Fano, i.e.,  $-K_X > 0$ , we have  $H^0(X, K_X \otimes \mathrm{ad}(P)) = H^3(X, \mathrm{ad}(P))^\vee = 0$ .

Let  $\mathcal{M}$  denote the moduli space of gauge equivalence classes of solutions to (7). The tangent space of  $\mathcal{M}$  at a point  $(A, \varphi)$  can be identified with  $H^1$

of the following deformation complex<sup>1</sup>

$$(9) \quad 0 \rightarrow \Omega_X^{0,0}(\text{ad}P_{\mathbb{C}}) \xrightarrow{D_1} \Omega_X^{0,1}(\text{ad}P_{\mathbb{C}}) \oplus \Omega_X^{0,3}(\text{ad}P_{\mathbb{C}}) \xrightarrow{D_2} \Omega_X^{0,2}(\text{ad}P_{\mathbb{C}}) \rightarrow 0.$$

When  $X$  is Calabi-Yau, the index of the above deformation complex is zero. We have

$$(10) \quad \dim T_{(A,\varphi)}\mathcal{M} = \dim \mathcal{N}_{(A,\varphi)}$$

where  $\mathcal{N}_{(A,\varphi)}$  is  $H^2$  of the above deformation complex. In this case, from 1-loop determinants one finds that the partition function computes the Euler characteristic of the obstruction bundle  $\mathcal{N}$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} Z_{DT}^G &= \int DAD\varphi D(\dots) \exp(S(A, \varphi, \dots)) \\ &= \int_{\mathcal{M}} e(\mathcal{N}) \exp \int_X \text{Tr} \left( \frac{g_s}{3!} F \wedge F \wedge F + \frac{1}{2} F \wedge F \wedge k_0 + F \wedge \vartheta \right) \end{aligned}$$

where  $e(\mathcal{N})$  is the Euler class of  $\mathcal{N}$ . The integral over  $X$  is topological in the sense that it is constant on each connected component of  $\mathcal{M}$ . For example, when  $G = U(N)$ , let  $\mathcal{M}_{ch_1, ch_2, ch_3}$  be the union of connected components of  $\mathcal{M}$  with fixed Chern characters  $ch_1, ch_2, ch_3$ . Then

$$(11) \quad Z_{DT}^{U(N)}(q, t, T) = \sum_{ch_1, ch_2, ch_3} \int_{\mathcal{M}_{ch_1, ch_2, ch_3}} e(\mathcal{N}) q^{ch_3(\mathcal{E})} t^{ch_2(\mathcal{E})} T^{ch_1(\mathcal{E})}$$

where  $q = e^{g_s}$ ,  $t$ , and  $T$  are formal variables that encode dependence of the Donaldson-Thomas partition function on the Chern classes. More generally, when  $X$  is not a Calabi-Yau manifold, the index of the deformation complex (9) is

$$(12) \quad \int_X c_1(T_X) \left( ch_0 ch_2 - \frac{ch_1^2}{2} + \frac{ch_0^2 - 1}{24} c_2(T_X) \right) = \text{rank}_{\mathbb{C}} \mathcal{N} - \dim_{\mathbb{C}} \mathcal{M}$$

and the correlation functions are of the form

$$(13) \quad \int_{\mathcal{M}_{ch_1, ch_2, ch_3}} e(\mathcal{N}) \mathcal{O}_1 \cdots \mathcal{O}_k$$

where  $\mathcal{O}_i \in H^*(\mathcal{M}_{ch_1, ch_2, ch_3})$  are topological observables, invariant under the BRST symmetry.

In order to define (13) mathematically, one needs to compactify the moduli space  $\mathcal{M}$ . By Uhlenbeck and Yau's result [89], the moduli space of gauge equivalence classes of HYM  $U(N)$ -connections can be identified with the moduli space of isomorphism classes of polystable vector bundles of rank  $N$ . The later can be compactified by the moduli space of rank  $N$  semistable sheaves. In the algebro-geometric framework, the deformation complex (7) is replaced by the tangent-obstruction complex which encodes the deformation

<sup>1</sup>Using  $\bar{\partial}_A^2 \eta = [F_A^{0,2}, \eta]$  and  $F_A^{0,2} = \bar{\partial}_A^\dagger \bar{\varphi}$ , one can check that this is actually a complex:

$$D_2 \circ D_1(\eta) = D_2(\bar{\partial}_A \eta, [\bar{\varphi}, \eta]) = \bar{\partial}_A^2 \eta - \bar{\partial}_A^\dagger [\bar{\varphi}, \eta] = [\bar{\partial}_A^\dagger \bar{\varphi}, \eta] - \bar{\partial}_A^\dagger [\bar{\varphi}, \eta] = 0$$



theory of the moduli problem. When higher obstruction groups vanish, one obtains virtual fundamental cycle  $[\mathcal{M}]^{\text{vir}}$ , and the mathematical definition of the integral (13) is given by

$$(14) \quad \int_{[\mathcal{M}_{ch_1, ch_2, ch_3}]^{\text{vir}}} \mathcal{O}_1 \cdots \mathcal{O}_k \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

The deformation theory and the virtual fundamental cycle have been established for smooth projective Calabi-Yau and Fano 3-folds in [88]. In string theory, the Donaldson-Thomas theory with gauge group  $G = U(N)$  can be interpreted as a gauge theory on  $N$  D6-branes wrapped on  $X$ . In this interpretation, the integer coefficients of the partition function  $Z_{DT}$  count BPS states with D0, D2, D4, and D6-brane changes. We remind that D-brane charges are described by the Mukai vector,  $Q \in H^0(X) \oplus H^2(X) \oplus H^4(X) \oplus H^6(X)$ , given by

$$Q = ch(\mathcal{E})\sqrt{Td(X)}$$

These invariants are in fact the generalized DT invariants which were constructed and computed by the wall crossing techniques of Kontsevich-Soibelman [48] and Joyce-Song [45]. In connection with Gromov-Witten invariants which count holomorphic curves, one considers moduli space of ideal sheaves of curves. These are torsion free, rank 1 sheaves with trivial determinant, so they correspond to abelian theory with  $ch_1 = 0$ . The conjectural GW/DT correspondence [64, 65] (proved for toric 3-folds [66] and local curves [15, 80]) states that

$$Z'_{DT}(q, t) = Z'_{GW}(g_s, t)$$

where  $Z'_{DT}(q, t)$  and  $Z'_{GW}(g_s, t)$  are the *reduced* DT and GW partition functions. Roughly speaking,  $Z'_{DT}(q, t)$  is obtained from  $Z_{DT}(q, t)$ , by removing the contribution of point-like instantons, and  $Z'_{GW}(g_s, t)$  is obtained from  $Z_{GW}(g_s, t)$  by removing the contribution of constant maps.

In certain cases, the Donaldson-Thomas theory on  $X$  can be related to topological theories in lower dimensions. In this paper, we describe two such relations which, in a sense, are analogues of the corresponding relations in four-dimensional topological gauge theory studied, respectively, in [9] and [69].

**2.3. Seiberg-Witten theory.** In this subsection, we briefly review the definition of the Seiberg-Witten invariants [93]

$$(15) \quad SW_S : Spin^c(S) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$$

and their relation [83] with the enumerative invariants of  $S$ .

Up to the finite group  $H^1(S, \mathbb{Z}_2)$ , the set of  $Spin^c$  structures on a 4-manifold  $S$  is parameterized by integral cohomology classes<sup>2</sup> which reduce

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<sup>2</sup>Sometimes, we parametrize the set of  $Spin^c$  structures by  $\lambda = \frac{c}{2} \in H^2(S, \mathbb{Z}) + w_2(S)/2$ , which is widely used in the physics literature.

to  $w_2(X) \bmod 2$

$$\text{Spin}^c(S) = \{c \in H^2(S, \mathbb{Z}) \mid c \equiv w_2(S) \bmod 2\}$$

Given a  $\text{Spin}^c$  structure  $c \in \text{Spin}^c(S)$ , let  $L$  be the corresponding Hermitian line bundle, and  $S_L^\pm$  the corresponding spinor bundles. The Seiberg-Witten monopole equations are equations for a pair  $(A, \Psi)$ , where  $A$  is a unitary connection on  $L$  and  $\Psi$  is a smooth section of  $S_L^+$ . In order to write the equations, we need to introduce the Dirac operator

$$D_A : S_L^+ \rightarrow S_L^-$$

and a map

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega^0(S_L^+) &\rightarrow \Omega^0(\text{ad}_0 S_L^+) \\ \Psi &\mapsto i(\Psi \otimes \Psi^*)_0 \end{aligned}$$

where  $\Psi^*$  is the adjoint of  $\Psi$  and  $\text{ad}_0 S_L^+$  is the subbundle of the adjoint bundle of  $S_L^+$  consisting of the traceless skew-Hermitian endomorphisms. Then, the Seiberg-Witten equations take the form [93]

$$\begin{aligned} D_A \Psi &= 0 \\ F_A^+ - i(\Psi \otimes \Psi^*)_0 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

where in the second equation we used the identification between the space of self-dual 2-forms and skew-Hermitian automorphisms of the positive spin representation,  $\text{ad}_0 S_L^+ \cong \Lambda_+^2$ .

Let  $\mathcal{M}_c$  be the moduli space of solutions to the Seiberg-Witten equations. It has virtual dimension

$$d_c = \frac{1}{4}(c^2 - 2\chi(S) - 3\sigma(S))$$

The Seiberg-Witten invariants are defined as<sup>3</sup>

$$SW_S(c) = \int_{\mathcal{M}_c} a_D^{d_c/2}$$

where  $a_D$  is a 2-form which represents the first Chern class of the universal line bundle on the moduli space  $\mathcal{M}_c$ . Notice, that the dimension of the Seiberg-Witten moduli space and  $b_2^+ + b_1$  have opposite parity. This fact can be used to establish vanishing of Seiberg-Witten invariants when  $b_2^+ + b_1$  is even. Another useful fact is a vanishing theorem [93], which says that  $SW_S(c) = 0$  whenever  $S$  admits a metric of positive scalar curvature. This theorem is especially helpful in some of our examples, where the existence of a positive curvature Kähler-Einstein metric on  $S$  is directly related to the existence of a complete Ricci flat Kähler metric (Calabi-Yau metric) on  $X_S$  [95, 86, 87].

Among the examples that we consider, there are 4-manifolds with  $b_2^+ = 1$ . In such cases, Seiberg-Witten invariants are not quite topological invariants;

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<sup>3</sup>Even though some of our examples below include 4-manifolds with  $b_1 > 0$ , we will not consider classes in  $H^1(S; \mathbb{R})$ . In particular, we will not worry about the orientation of  $H^1(S; \mathbb{R})$ .

they are only piece-wise constant and exhibit discontinuous behavior under wall crossing that we briefly review below.

Let  $H$  be the hyperbolic space

$$H = \{h \in H_{DR}^2(S) \mid h^2 = 1\}$$

This space has two connected components and the choice of one of them orients the lines  $H_g^{2,+}(S)$  for all metrics  $g$ . Having fixed a component  $H_0$  of  $H$ , every metric defines a unique self-dual 2-form  $\omega$  of length 1 with  $[\omega] \in H_0$ , called the period point,  $\omega^2 = 1$ . We have  $H^{2,+}(S; \mathbb{R}) \cong \mathbb{R}\omega$  and  $c$  can be written as  $c = c_+ + c_-$  where  $c_+ = (c \cdot \omega)\omega$ .

The space  $H$  is divided into a set of chambers  $C$ , and for every metric  $g$  whose self-dual 2-form  $\omega$  lies in  $\mathbb{R}_+ \cdot C$  one can define the corresponding Seiberg-Witten invariants  $SW_{S,g} = SW_{S,C}$ . Notice, that changing  $\omega$  to  $-\omega$  corresponds to changing the orientation of the Seiberg-Witten moduli space, so that

$$(16) \quad SW_{S,-C} = -SW_{S,C}$$

The Seiberg-Witten invariants  $SW_{S,C}$  can be defined using the perturbed (or “twisted”) monopole equations<sup>4</sup>

$$\begin{aligned} D_A \Psi &= 0 \\ (F_A + 2\pi i \beta)^+ &= i(\Psi \otimes \Psi^*)_0 \end{aligned}$$

where  $\beta$  is a closed 2-form with  $b = [\beta] \in H^2(S; \mathbb{R})$ . Equivalently, we consider a  $\text{Spin}^c$  structure given by  $(c - b)$ . Each characteristic class  $c \in H^2(S; \mathbb{Z})$ , that is an integral lift of  $w_2(S)$ , defines four chambers of type  $c$ :

$$C_{H_0, \pm} = \{(h, b) \in H_0 \times H_{DR}^2(S) \mid \pm (c - b) \cdot h < 0\}$$

where  $H_0$  is one of the components of  $H$ . Following the standard conventions, we denote the corresponding Seiberg-Witten invariants by  $SW_{S, H_0}^{\pm}(c)$  (or simply by  $SW_S^{\pm}(c)$ ). Notice, according to (16), we have  $SW_{S, -H_0}^{\pm}(c) = -SW_{S, H_0}^{\mp}(c)$ .

The difference between the Seiberg-Witten invariants across a wall is given by a simple formula, which for a simply-connected surface  $S$  takes the form

$$SW_S^+(c) - SW_S^-(c) = 1$$

For example, for  $S = \mathbb{P}^2$ , we have  $\text{Spin}^c(\mathbb{P}^2) \cong (2\mathbb{Z} + 1)h$ , where  $h$  denotes the first Chern class of  $\mathcal{O}(1)$ ,  $h^2 = 1$ . And for every  $c \equiv h \pmod{2}$ , there are two chambers of type  $c$ :

$$C_{H_0, \pm} = \{(h, b) \in H_0 \times H_{DR}^2(S) \mid \pm (c - b) \cdot h < 0\}$$

where  $H_0 = \{h\}$  and  $d_c = \frac{1}{4}(c^2 - 9)$ . The corresponding Seiberg-Witten invariants are

$$SW_S^+(c) = 1 \quad c \cdot h \geq 3$$

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<sup>4</sup>In topological gauge theory, the perturbation by the self-dual 2-form  $\beta^+$  corresponds to perturbation by a mass term [94].

$$(17) \quad \begin{aligned} SW_S^+(c) &= 0 & c \cdot h < 3 \\ SW_S^-(c) &= -1 & c \cdot h \leq -3 \\ SW_S^-(c) &= 0 & c \cdot h > -3 \end{aligned}$$

More generally, for Kähler surfaces with  $b_2^+ = 1$  and  $b_1 = 0$ , we have  $SW_S^\pm(c) = \{0, 1\}$  or  $SW_S^\pm(c) = \{0, -1\}$  as soon as  $d_c \geq 0$  [77].

### 3. DIMENSIONAL REDUCTION OF DT THEORY TO 4D VAFA-WITTEN THEORY

#### 3.1. Dimensional reduction of DT theory on an elliptic fibration.

Suppose that the 3-fold  $X$  is an elliptic fibration over a surface  $S$ . In particular, one can consider a trivial fibration,  $X = E \times S$ . Then, we can interpret the partition function of the Donaldson-Thomas theory on  $X$  as counting BPS states in the T-dual system. Specifically, under a T-duality along  $E$ , the D6-branes on  $X$  turn into D4-branes on  $S$ , the D0-brane charge becomes the charge of the D2-brane on  $E$ , and so on.

For general gauge group  $G$ , D-brane charges can be viewed as homology classes which are Poicaré duals of the obstruction classes  $o_i \in H^i(X, \pi_1(G))$ . We consider compact connected Lie groups, so  $\pi_0(G)$  is trivial and the first obstruction class  $o_1 = 0$ . The second obstruction class  $o_2 \in H^2(X, \pi_1(G))$  is the magnetic flux  $m$ . When  $G = U(N)$ ,  $m = c_1 = ch_1 \in H^2(X, \mathbb{Z})$  is the first Chern class (which is also the first Chern character); when  $G = SO(N)$  ( $N > 2$ ),  $m = w_2 \in H^2(X, \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$ , is the second Steifel-Whitney class. In the rest of Section 3, we will consider  $G = U(N)$ , and the D-brane charges are described by the Mukai vector as recalled in Section 2.2.

In general, the resulting configuration of D-branes is similar to the one we started with. However, there are several cases when this duality can be very useful and can relate Donaldson-Thomas invariants to some invariants in the four-dimensional topological gauge theory. The four-dimensional gauge theory is a twisted gauge theory on  $N$  D4-branes wrapped around the base  $S$ , obtained from  $N$  D6-branes in the original setup. This gauge theory is a topological twist of  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  super-Yang-Mills studied by Vafa and Witten. It has the following spectrum [91]:

bosonic:	1-form	$A$	
	self-dual 2-form	$B_+$	3
	scalar	$C$	1
	complex scalar	$\phi, \bar{\phi}$	2
fermionic:	self-dual 2-forms	$\chi, \tilde{\psi}$	3+3
	vectors	$\psi, \tilde{\chi}$	4 + 4
	scalars	$\eta, \zeta$	1+1

where in the last column we again summarized the number of real components.<sup>5</sup> Under a favorable set of conditions<sup>6</sup>, the partition function in this

<sup>5</sup>Notice, that the total number of fermions is 16.

<sup>6</sup>More specifically, when vanishing theorems hold.

theory localizes on anti-self-dual gauge fields (instantons):

$$(18) \quad F_A^+ = 0$$

and has the form similar to (11).

In general, the partition function of this four-dimensional topological gauge theory can be interpreted as counting BPS states with D2, D4, and D6 brane charges on  $X$ , where all of these branes are wrapped on the elliptic fiber  $E$ . Specifically, the dependence on the D2 and D4 brane charges is through the gauge coupling  $q = \exp(2\pi i\tau)$  and the 't Hooft magnetic fluxes  $m$ , while D6-brane charge corresponds to the rank of the gauge group. In our case,  $G = U(N)$  and D2, D4, D6 brane charges are cycles dual to  $ch_2, ch_1, ch_0$ , respectively, and the partition function of the Vafa-Witten theory can be interpreted as a partition function of the Donaldson-Thomas theory,

$$(19) \quad Z_{DT}(X)_{ch_3=0} = Z_{VW}(S) = \sum_{k,m} \chi(\mathcal{M}_{m,k}) t^m q^k$$

where  $\mathcal{M}_{m,k}$  is the moduli space of solutions to (18) with

$$k = \int_S ch_2(\mathcal{E}), \quad m = ch_1(\mathcal{E}), \quad N = ch_0(\mathcal{E}).$$

Notice that we have  $c_1(T_X) = c_1(T_S)$  so the index (12) becomes

$$\int_X c_1(T_S) \left( ch_0 ch_2 - \frac{ch_1^2}{2} + \frac{ch_0^2 - 1}{24} c_2(T_S) \right)$$

which is zero when  $ch_0, ch_1, ch_2$  are classes from  $H^*(S, \mathbb{Z})$ , so this part of the theory is balanced (in the sense of [20]). This is consistent with the fact that the Vafa-Witten theory is balanced, even when  $c_1(T_S) \neq 0$ .

The partition function  $Z_{DT}(X) = Z_{DT}(E \times S)$  is defined mathematically when  $S$  is a K3 surfaces. In this case, let

$$\tilde{N}_{ch_1, ch_2, ch_3} = \int_{[\mathcal{M}_{ch_1, ch_2, ch_3}]^{\text{vir}}} 1$$

be the Donaldson-Thomas (holomorphic Casson) invariants. R. Thomas verified that in some cases  $\tilde{N}_{m,k,0} = N^2 \chi(\mathcal{M}_{m,k})$ , where the factor  $N^2$  comes from the  $N$ -th root of unity in the Jacobian of  $E$  [88].

**3.2. Abelian Vafa-Witten theory.** In the abelian gauge theory, we have  $ch_0(\mathcal{E}) = 1$ . In order for  $ch_2(\mathcal{E})$  to be non-trivial, we need to enlarge the space of gauge connections to include singular gauge fields (point-like instantons) which mathematically can be described as ideal sheaves. The partition function of the abelian gauge theory on  $S$  is

$$(20) \quad Z(q, t) = \frac{\vartheta_\Gamma(t, \tau, \bar{\tau})}{\eta(\tau)^{\chi(S)}}$$

where the factor  $\eta^{-\chi(S)}$  is the contribution from the point-like instantons ( $m = 0$ ) and the theta-function comes from the lattice sum over magnetic fluxes  $m \in \Gamma$ .

The moduli space of point-like instantons can be identified with Hilbert scheme of points on  $S$ . According to Hirzebruch-Hofer [36], the orbifold Euler number of the symmetric product  $\text{Sym}^k S$  is equal to the Euler number of the Hilbert scheme  $\text{Hilb}^k S$  of  $k$  points in  $S$ , which is all we need.

Göttsche [30] has shown:

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} q^k P_t(\text{Hilb}^k S) = \prod_{m=1}^{\infty} \prod_{i=1}^4 (1 - (-t)^{2m-2+1} q^m)^{(-1)^{i+1} b_i(S)}$$

In particular,

$$\sum_{k \geq 0} \chi(\text{Hilb}^k S) q^{k-\chi(S)/24} = \eta(\tau)^{-\chi(S)}$$

or equivalently,

$$(21) \quad \sum_{k \geq 0} \chi(\text{Hilb}^k S) q^k = \prod_{n > 0} \frac{1}{(1 - q^n)^{\chi(M)}} = q^{\frac{\chi(S)}{24}} \eta(\tau)^{-\chi(S)}$$

This formula can be also obtained as a special case of the elliptic genus for the symmetric product CFT with target space  $\text{Sym}^k S$  [21].

**3.3. Examples and applications.** Below we consider two groups of examples: 1) abelian gauge theory on  $S$ , and 2) non-abelian  $U(N)$  gauge theory with  $m = 0$ . The former is more relevant to the DT/GW correspondence, while the latter gives us partition function of the DT theory on elliptic fibration with  $ch_1(\mathcal{E}) = 0$  and  $ch_3(\mathcal{E}) = 0$ .

**3.4. Abelian DT theory and GW theory on a trivial elliptic fibration.** Let  $X = E \times S \rightarrow S$  be a trivial elliptic fibration over a smooth projective surface  $S$ , where  $E$  is an elliptic curve. In this subsection, we follow Edidin and Qin's computations of DT and GW invariants of  $X = E \times S$  in [26].

**3.4.1. Abelian DT theory.** Following [64, 65], given  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $\beta \in H_2(X; \mathbb{Z})$ , let  $I_n(X, \beta)$  be the moduli space of ideal sheaves  $I_Z$  of 1-dimensional closed subschemes  $Z$  of  $X$  satisfying  $\chi(\mathcal{O}_Z) = n$  and  $[Z] = \beta$ . The virtual dimension of  $I_n(X, \beta)$  is  $-\int_{\beta} K_S$ . Let  $\beta_0 = [E] \in H_2(X; \mathbb{Z})$  be the fiber class. The virtual dimension of  $I_n(X, k\beta_0)$  is zero. Define

$$\tilde{N}_{n,k} = \int_{[I_n(X, k\beta_0)]^{\text{vir}}} 1.$$

The integral can be calculated by localization. The elliptic curve  $E$  is a group (compact torus). Let  $E$  act on itself by group multiplication and act

on  $S$  trivially. This gives a torus action on  $X = E \times S$  and torus actions on moduli spaces  $I_n(X, k\beta_0)$ . The action has no fixed point unless  $n = 0$ . So

$$\tilde{N}_{n,k} = 0, \quad n \neq 0.$$

When  $n = 0$ , the moduli space  $I_0(X, k\beta_0)$  can be identified with  $\text{Hilb}^k S$ , Hilbert scheme of  $k$  points in  $S$ , which is a smooth variety of complex dimension  $2k$ . The virtual dimension of  $I_0(X, k[E])$  is zero. Edidin and Qin proved the following dimensional reduction of Donaldson-Thomas theory on  $X$  to Vafa-Witten theory on  $S$  in algebraic geometry:

**Fact 1.** [26, Lemma 3.4 (i)] *The obstruction bundle over  $I_0(X, d[E]) \cong \text{Hilb}^k S$  is isomorphic to the tangent bundle of  $\text{Hilb}^k S$ .*

As a consequence [26, Lemma 3.4 (ii)],

$$\tilde{N}_{0,k} = \int_{[I_0(X, k\beta_0)]^{\text{vir}}} 1 = \int_{\text{Hilb}^k S} e(T_{\text{Hilb}^k S}) = \chi(\text{Hilb}^k S).$$

We have

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \tilde{N}_{0,k} v^k = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \chi(\text{Hilb}^k S) v^k = \prod_{m>0} \frac{1}{(1 - v^m)^{\chi(S)}}.$$

3.4.2. *GW theory.* For any  $g, k \geq 0$  the moduli space  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(X, k\beta_0)$  of genus  $g$ , degree  $k\beta_0$  stable maps to  $X$  has virtual dimension zero. Define

$$N_{g,k} = \int_{[\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(X, k\beta_0)]^{\text{vir}}} 1.$$

The moduli space  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(X, k\beta_0)$  can be identified with  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(E, k[E]) \times S$ . The virtual dimension of  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(X, k\beta_0)$  is zero, and the virtual dimension of  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(E, k[E])$  is  $2g - 2$ . Let

$$\pi_1 : \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(E, k[E]) \times S \rightarrow \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(E, k[E]), \quad \pi_2 : \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(E, k[E]) \times S \rightarrow S$$

be projections to the first and second factors, respectively. Let  $\mathbb{E} \rightarrow \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(E, k[E])$  be the Hodge bundle, and let  $\mathbb{E}^\vee$  denote its dual. Then

$$N_{g,k} = \int_{[\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(X, k\beta_0)]^{\text{vir}}} 1 = \int_{[\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(E, k[E])]^{\text{vir}} \times [S]} e(\pi_1^* \mathbb{E}^\vee \otimes \pi_2^* T_S)$$

Again,  $E$  acts on moduli spaces  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(X, k\beta_0)$ , and the action has no fixed points unless  $g = 1$ . In this case, we have

$$N_{1,k} = \int_{[\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{1,0}(E, k[E])]^{\text{vir}}} 1 \cdot \int_S e(T_S) = \chi(S) N_{1,k}^E$$

where

$$N_{1,k}^E = \int_{[\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{1,0}(E, k)]^{\text{vir}}} 1$$

We have

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} N_{1,k} v^k = \chi(S) \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} N_{1,k}^E v^k.$$

By [8, 19],

$$\exp\left(\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} N_{1,k}^E v^k\right) = \frac{1}{\prod_{m>0} (1 - v^m)}.$$

so

$$\exp\left(\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} N_{1,k} v^k\right) = \prod_{m>0} \frac{1}{(1 - v^m)^{\chi(S)}}.$$

3.4.3. *Non-compact surfaces.* The identity

$$(22) \quad \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \tilde{N}_{0,k} v^k = \exp\left(\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} N_{1,k} v^k\right) = \prod_{m>0} \frac{1}{(1 - v^m)^{\chi(S)}}.$$

is also valid for certain noncompact surfaces. For example, suppose that  $S$  admits a  $\mathbb{C}^*$  action such that the fixed point set  $S^{\mathbb{C}^*}$  is compact. Then one can use the torus action to define residue DT invariants  $\tilde{N}_{0,k}$  and GW invariants  $N_{1,k}$ . We have

$$N_{1,k} = \int_{[\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{1,0}(E,k[E])]^{\text{vir}}} 1 \cdot \int_{S^{\mathbb{C}^*}} \frac{e_{\mathbb{C}^*}(T_S)}{e_{\mathbb{C}^*}(N_{S^{\mathbb{C}^*}/S})} = N_{1,k}^E \chi(S^{\mathbb{C}^*}) = N_{1,k}^E \chi(S).$$

For example,  $S$  can be the total space of a line bundle over a curve, or a resolution of ADE singularities.

3.4.4. *Trivial elliptic fibration over a K3 surface.* Let  $X = S \times E$ , where  $S$  be a projective K3 surface. Then any effective curve class  $\beta \in H_2(X, \mathbb{Z})$  is of the form

$$\beta = \beta_1 + k\beta_0$$

where  $\beta_0 = [E]$  as before, and  $\beta_1$  is in the image of the injective map  $H_2(S, \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow H_2(X, \mathbb{Z})$  induced by the inclusion

$$S = S \times \{p_0\} \hookrightarrow S \times E = X$$

where  $p_0$  is some point in  $E$ .

$\beta_1 = 0$ : by Section 3.4.2,  $N_{g,k\beta_0}^{S \times E} = 0$  unless  $g = 1$ , and

$$\exp\left(\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} N_{g=1,k\beta_0}^{S \times E} v^k\right) = \prod_{m>0} \frac{1}{(1 - v^m)^{24}}.$$

$\beta_1 > 0$  (viewed as a class in  $H_2(S, \mathbb{Z})$ ): we have (see e.g. [68, 75])

$$[\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(S \times E, \beta_1 + k\beta_0)]^{\text{vir}} = 0,$$

so

$$N_{g,\beta_1+k\beta_0}^{S \times E} = 0.$$



Therefore, Gromov-Witten theory of  $S \times E$  is almost trivial. However,  $S \times E$  has very interesting *reduced* Gromov-Witten theory [75, 76].

### 3.5. Half K3.

3.5.1. *Construction.* Let  $[X_0, X_1, X_2]$  be homogeneous coordinates on  $\mathbb{P}^2$ . Let  $F_0(X_0, X_1, X_2)$  and  $F_1(X_0, X_1, X_2)$  be two homogeneous polynomials of degree 3 such that

$$\begin{aligned} D_0 &= \{[X_0, X_1, X_2] \in \mathbb{P}^2 \mid F_0(X_0, X_1, X_2) = 0\}, \\ D_1 &= \{[X_0, X_1, X_2] \in \mathbb{P}^2 \mid F_1(X_0, X_1, X_2) = 0\} \end{aligned}$$

are two smooth cubic curves intersecting transversally at 9 points  $q_1, \dots, q_9$ .  $D_0, D_1$  are elliptic curves.

Consider a pencil of elliptic curves in  $\mathbb{P}^2$  containing  $D_0$  and  $D_1$ :

$$B_9 = \{([Z_0, Z_1], [X_0, X_1, X_2]) \in \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^2 \mid Z_0 F_0(X_0, X_1, X_2) + Z_1 F_1(X_0, X_1, X_2) = 0\}.$$

Define  $p_1 : \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^1$  and  $p_2 : \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^2$  to be the projections to the first and second factors, respectively. And, let  $\pi_1 : B_9 \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^1$  and  $\pi_2 : B_9 \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^2$  be the restrictions of these projections. Then  $\pi_1 : B_9 \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^1$  is an elliptic fibration, and  $\pi_2 : B_9 \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^2$  is blowup of  $\mathbb{P}^2$  at  $q_1, \dots, q_9$ . The exceptional divisor  $E_i = \pi_2^{-1}(q_i)$  is a section of  $\pi_1 : B_9 \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^1$  and can be identified with  $\mathbb{P}^1 \times \{q_i\} \subset \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^2$ .

3.5.2. *Basic topology.* Let  $H_1, H_2 \in H^2(\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^2; \mathbb{Z})$  be the pull back of the hyperplane class under  $p_1, p_2$ , respectively. Then

$$H^*(\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^2; \mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{Z}[H_1, H_2]/(H_1^2, H_2^3).$$

Let  $h_1, h_2 \in H^2(B_9; \mathbb{Z})$  be the restriction of  $H_1, H_2$  respectively. Then  $h_1$  is the Poincaré dual of the homology class of a fiber  $F$  of  $\pi_1 : S \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^1$ , and  $h_2$  is the Poincaré dual of the homology class of a curve  $E_0 \subset S$  such that  $\pi_1|_{E_0} : E_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^1$  is a degree 3 cover. We have  $E_0 \cdot E_0 = 1$  and the genus of  $E_0$  is zero. By adjunction formula, we have  $c_1(T_{B_9}) = h_1$ . So the pair  $(B_9, F)$  is relative Calabi-Yau in the sense that  $K_{B_9} + F = 0$ . In particular,  $h^{2,0}(B_9) = h^{0,2}(B_9) = 0$ .

We have

$$\chi(B_9) = \int_{B_9} c_2(T_{B_9}) = \int_{\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^2} \frac{(1 + H_1)^2(1 + H_2)^3}{1 + H_1 + 3H_2} (H_1 + 3H_2) = 12.$$

Alternatively,

$$\chi(B_9) = \chi(\mathbb{P}^2) - 9\chi(\text{point}) + 9\chi(\mathbb{P}^1) = 3 - 9 + 18 = 12$$

By the Lefschetz hyperplane theorem,  $H_1(B_9; \mathbb{Z}) = 0$ . So the Hodge diamond of  $B_9$  is given by:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & & & 1 \\ & & & & 0 & 0 \\ & & & 0 & 10 & 0 \\ & & & 0 & 0 & \\ & & & & & 1 \end{array}$$

For  $i = 0, \dots, 9$ , let  $e_i \in H_2(B_9; \mathbb{Z})$  be the homology class represented by the curve  $E_i$ , respectively. Then

$$H_2(B_9; \mathbb{Z}) = \bigoplus_{i=0}^9 \mathbb{Z}e_i,$$

and the intersection form is given by

$$e_i \cdot e_j = g_{ij}, \quad g_{ij} = \text{diag}(1, -1, \dots, -1).$$

so that

$$H_2(B_9, \mathbb{Z}) = \Gamma^{1,9}$$

is the unique 10 dimensional odd unimodular lattice of signature  $(1, 9)$ .

In terms of  $e_i$ , the fiber class  $[F]$  and the base class  $[B]$  have the form

$$[F] = 3e_0 - \sum_{i=1}^9 e_i, \quad [B] = e_9$$

such that

$$[F] \cdot [B] = 1 \quad [B] \cdot [B] = -1 \quad [F] \cdot [F] = 0$$

We have an orthogonal decomposition

$$\Gamma^{1,9} = \Gamma^{1,1} \oplus E_8(-1)$$

where

- $\Gamma^{1,1}$  is the sublattice generated by  $[F]$  and  $[B]$ , which is the unique 2 dimensional odd unimodular lattice of signature  $(1, 1)$ , and
- $E_8(-1)$  is the sublattice generated by  $-e_0 + e_1 + e_2 + e_3, e_1 - e_2, e_2 - e_3, \dots, e_7 - e_8$ , which is the negative  $E_8$  lattice.

**3.5.3. Local GW invariants from topological YM theory.** Recall that  $K_{B_9} = -F$ . Suppose that

$$\beta \in H_2(X_{B_9}; \mathbb{Z}) \cong H_2(B_9; \mathbb{Z})$$

and  $\beta \cdot [F] > 0$ . Then

$$\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(X_{B_9}, \beta) = \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(B_9, \beta).$$

The virtual dimension of  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(X_{B_9}; \beta)$  is zero, while the virtual dimension of  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(B_9; \beta)$  is  $\beta \cdot [F] + g - 1$ . Define

$$(23) \quad N_{g,\beta}^{X_{B_9}} = \int_{[\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(X_{B_9}, \beta)]^{\text{vir}}} 1 = \int_{[\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(B_9, \beta)]^{\text{vir}}} e(V_{g,\beta})$$

where  $V_{g,\beta}$  is a vector bundle over  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,0}(B_9; \beta)$  whose fiber over  $[f : C \rightarrow B_9]$  is

$$H^1(C, f^* \mathcal{O}_{B_9}(-F)).$$

Note that  $H^0(C, f^* \mathcal{O}_S(-F)) = 0$  since  $[C] \cdot (-[F]) < 0$ . By Riemann-Roch, the rank of  $V_{g,\beta}$  is  $\beta \cdot [F] + g - 1$ .

Introduce the Gromov-Witten potential,

$$\mathcal{F}(\lambda; t) := \sum_g \lambda^{2g-2} \mathcal{F}_g(t), \quad \mathcal{F}_g(t) = \sum_{\beta} N_{g,\beta}^{X_{B_9}} e^{2\pi i t \cdot \beta}$$

where  $t = (\phi, \tau, \vec{m})$  are the Kähler moduli, such that  $\phi$  and  $\tau$  correspond to the base and fiber moduli, and  $m_i, i = 1, \dots, 8$  denote the remaining  $E_8$  moduli.

Since  $B_9$  is elliptic, one can use the fiberwise T-duality to relate the counting of holomorphic curves on  $B_9$  to the counting of instantons on  $B_9$ . As a result, one finds a relation

$$(24) \quad \mathcal{F}_0(t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} q^{n/2} Z_n(m_i; \tau) e^{2\pi i n \phi}$$

where  $q = e^{2\pi i \tau}$  and  $Z_n(m_i; \tau)$  is the partition function of the topological  $\mathcal{N} = 4$   $U(n)$  Yang-Mills on  $B_9$ . It is defined as a generating function

$$Z_n := \sum_k \chi(\mathcal{M}_k) q^k$$

where  $\mathcal{M}_k$  is the moduli space of instantons on  $S$  with instanton number  $k$ . Thus, (24) relates the counting of holomorphic curves in the class  $\beta = n[B] + k[F]$  to the counting of  $U(n)$  instantons with instanton number  $k$ . Let us consider some explicit examples.

$n = 0$  : In this case, the rank of the gauge group is zero and there are no Yang-Mills instantons. Therefore,

$$N_{g,\beta}^{X_{B_9}} = 0$$

for  $\beta = k[F]$ .

$n = 1$  : In the abelian Yang-Mills theory, the only non-trivial instantons are point-like. The moduli space of point-like instantons of charge  $k$  can be identified with  $\text{Hilb}^k B_9$ , the Hilbert scheme of  $k$  points on the surface  $B_9$ . This suggests  $Z_1 \sim \eta(q)^{-1/12}$ .

In general,

$$q^{1/2} Z_1(m_i; \tau) = \frac{\theta_{E_8}(\tau; m_i) q^{1/2}}{\eta(q)^{12}} = \theta_{E_8}(\tau; m_i) \prod_{m>0} \frac{1}{(1 - q^m)^{12}}.$$

The precise definition of  $\theta_{E_8}(\tau; m_1, \dots, m_8)$  can be found in [40, section 2.6]. It can be written as

$$\theta_{E_8}(\tau; m_1, \dots, m_8) = \sum_{k_i \in \frac{1}{2}\mathbb{Z}} A_{k_1, \dots, k_8}(q) y_1^{k_1} \dots y_8^{k_8}$$

where  $y_i = e^{2\pi i m_i}$ ,  $A_{0,\dots,0}(q) = 1$ . Hence, one finds

$$(25) \quad \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} N_{0,[B]+k[F]}^{X_{B_9}} q^k = \prod_{m>0} \frac{1}{(1-q^m)^{12}}$$

$$= 1 + 12q + 90q^2 + 520q^3 + 2535q^4 + 10908q^5 + \dots$$

In fact, the duality prediction (25) has been verified mathematically. The rank of  $V_{0,[B]+k[F]}$  in (23) is zero, so

$$N_{0,[B]+k[F]}^{X_{B_9}} = \int_{[\mathcal{M}_{0,0}(B_9;[B]+k[F])]^{\text{vir}}} 1 = N_{0,[B]+k[F]}^{B_9}$$

Let  $N_{g,n} = N_{g,[B]+(g+n)[F]}^{B_9}$ , where  $N_{g,\beta}^{B_9}$  is defined by (1). Bryan and Leung [14] showed that

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} N_{g,n} q^n = \left( \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k \left( \sum_{d|k} d \right) q^{k-1} \right)^g \prod_{m>0} \frac{1}{(1-q^m)^{12}}.$$

The case  $g = 0$  gives exactly the formula (25).

$n \geq 2$ : In general,  $Z_n$  have the following structure [69]:

$$(26) \quad Z_n(0; \tau) = \eta^{-12n} P_{6n-2}(E_2(\tau), E_4(\tau), E_6(\tau))$$

where  $P_{6n-2}$  is a quasi-homogeneous polynomial of weight  $6n - 2$ , and  $E_{2m}$  are the Eisenstein modular forms of weight  $2m$ .

In general  $q^{n/2} Z_n(0; \tau)$  gives us

$$(27) \quad \sum_k \left( \sum_{\beta \cdot [B]=k, \beta \cdot [F]=n} N_{0,\beta}^{X_{B_9}} \right) q^k.$$

instead of

$$(28) \quad \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} N_{0,n[B]+k[F]}^{X_{B_9}} q^k$$

For example,

$$(29) \quad q^{1/2} Z_1(0; \tau) = \frac{\theta_{E_8}(\tau; 0) q^{1/2}}{\eta(q)^{12}} = \frac{E_4(\tau)}{\prod_{m>0} (1-q^m)}$$

$$= 1 + 12q + 330q^2 + 3400q^3 + 26295q^4 + 161628q^5 + \dots$$

which is different from (25).

We have

$$(30) \quad q Z_2(0; \tau) = -\frac{1}{8} + \frac{18441}{2} q + 673760 q^2 + \frac{82133595}{4} q^3 + \dots$$

Gromov-Witten invariants of  $X_{B_9}$ , i.e. local Gromov-Witten invariants of the half K3, are studied in [38], [70], [46], etc.

**3.6. Dimensional reduction of DT theory on a local surface.** A closely related problem appears when we study the total space,  $X_S$ , of the canonical line bundle of a complex algebraic surface  $S$ . We will be mainly interested in enumerative invariants of  $X_S$  when  $S$  is a Fano surface. In this case, any non-constant holomorphic map to  $X_S$  factors through the zero section  $S \rightarrow X_S$ , so the Gromov-Witten invariants of  $X_S$  can be viewed as local Gromov-Witten invariants of  $S$  in a Calabi-Yau three-fold. Similarly, Donaldson-Thomas gauge theory on  $X_S$  effectively reduces to a four-dimensional gauge theory on  $S$ .

*3.6.1. The reduced deformation complex.* In order to see this more explicitly, let us consider the deformation complex (9) for the total space  $X_S$ , of the canonical line bundle of  $S$ . Let  $v$  be a local complex coordinate on the fiber of  $X_S$ . Then, a  $(p, q)$ -form on  $X_S$  which is constant along the fiber locally can be written as

$$\omega^{(p,q)} = \tilde{\omega}^{(p,q)} + \tilde{\omega}^{(p,q-1)} \wedge d\bar{v} + \tilde{\omega}^{(p-1,q)} \wedge dv + \tilde{\omega}^{(p-1,q-1)} \wedge dv \wedge d\bar{v}$$

where we use  $\tilde{\omega}^{(p,q)}$  to denote a (pull-back) of a  $(p, q)$ -form on  $S$ . Let  $\hat{\Omega}^{0,k}$  be the space of  $(0, k)$ -forms on  $X_S$  which are constant along the fiber. Then it decomposes into the following spaces of anti-holomorphic forms on  $S$ :

$$(31) \quad \begin{aligned} \hat{\Omega}^{0,3} &= \Omega_S^{0,2} \\ \hat{\Omega}^{0,k} &= \Omega_S^{0,k} \oplus \Omega_S^{0,k-1} \quad k = 1, 2 \\ \hat{\Omega}^{0,0} &= \Omega_S^{0,0} \end{aligned}$$

Hence, in terms of  $(0, k)$ -forms on  $S$ , the complex (9) reads

$$(32) \quad 0 \rightarrow \Omega^{0,0} \rightarrow \Omega^{0,0} \oplus \Omega^{0,1} \oplus \Omega^{0,2} \rightarrow \Omega^{0,1} \oplus \Omega^{0,2} \rightarrow 0$$

We now describe the differentials in (32). We assume that the fields are constant along the fiber of  $X_S \rightarrow S$ . Then  $A \in \Omega_{X_S}^1(\text{End}\mathcal{E})$  can be decomposed as

$$(33) \quad A = A_2 + Cdv + \bar{C}d\bar{v},$$

where  $v$  is the local coordinate in the fiber of  $X \rightarrow S$ ,

$$A_2 \in \Omega_S^1(\text{End}\mathcal{E}), \quad C \in \Omega_S^0(\text{End}\mathcal{E} \otimes K_S^{-1}), \quad \bar{C} \in \Omega_S^0(\text{End}\mathcal{E} \otimes K_S).$$

and  $\bar{\varphi}$  can be written as

$$(34) \quad \bar{\varphi} = \bar{\varphi}_2 \wedge d\bar{v}$$

where  $\bar{\varphi}_2 \in \Omega_S^{0,2}(\text{End}\mathcal{E} \otimes K_S)$ .

Equations (7) can be written as

$$(35) \quad F_{A_2}^{0,2} = [C, \bar{\varphi}_2]$$

$$(36) \quad \bar{\partial}_{A_2} \bar{C} = \bar{\partial}_{A_2}^\dagger \bar{\varphi}_2$$

$$(37) \quad \text{Tr}_\omega F_{A_2}^{1,1} + [C, \bar{C}] + *[\varphi_2, \bar{\varphi}_2] = \ell I.$$

where  $\omega$  is the Kähler form on  $S$ .

Let  $V = \text{End}\mathcal{E}$ . The deformation complex at  $(C, A_2, \varphi_2)$  is given by

$$0 \rightarrow \Omega_S^{0,0}(V) \xrightarrow{D_1} \Omega_S^{0,0}(V \otimes K_S) \oplus \Omega_S^{0,1}(V) \oplus \Omega_S^{0,2}(V \otimes K_S) \xrightarrow{D_2} \Omega_S^{0,1}(V \otimes K_S) \oplus \Omega_S^{0,2}(V) \rightarrow 0$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} D_1(\eta) &= ([\bar{C}, \eta], \bar{\partial}_{A_2}\eta, [\bar{\varphi}_2, \eta]) \\ D_2(\delta\bar{C}, \delta A_2^{0,1}, \delta\bar{\varphi}_2) &= \left( [\bar{C}, \delta A_2^{0,1}] + \bar{\partial}_{A_2}(\delta\bar{C}) - \bar{\partial}_{A_2}^\dagger(\delta\bar{\varphi}_2), \bar{\partial}_{A_2}(\delta A_2^{0,1}) - [C, \delta\bar{\varphi}_2] \right) \end{aligned}$$

This complex has to be identified with a deformation complex in a suitable four-dimensional gauge theory.

**3.6.2. Three twists of  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  super-Yang-Mills.** There are three different twists of  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  super-Yang-Mills in four dimensions, which can be conveniently characterized by the following homomorphisms [91]:

- (1)  $SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R \times SU(4)_I \rightarrow SU(2)'_L \times SU(2)_R \times SU(2)_F$ , under which  $\mathbf{4} \rightarrow (\mathbf{2}, \mathbf{1}) \oplus (\mathbf{2}, \mathbf{1})$
- (2)  $SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R \times SU(4)_I \rightarrow SU(2)'_L \times SU(2)_R \times SU(2)_F \times U(1)$ , so that  $\mathbf{4} \rightarrow (\mathbf{2}, \mathbf{1}) \oplus (\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}) \oplus (\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1})$
- (3)  $SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R \times SU(4)_I \rightarrow SU(2)'_L \times SU(2)'_R \times U(1)$ , so that  $\mathbf{4} \rightarrow (\mathbf{2}, \mathbf{1}) \oplus (\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2})$

and which relate the rotation symmetry and R-symmetry in the original theory and its twisted (topological) version. The first twist leads to a TQFT known as the Vafa-Witten theory [91]. The second is the Donaldson-Witten twist that leads to non-abelian monopole equations [51]. And the last twist is sometimes called Marcus twist [62] or GL twist, for its connection to the geometric Langlands program [50].

These three TQFTs involve (though in a somewhat different way) certain moduli spaces: 1) moduli space of self-dual gauge connections; 2) moduli space of adjoint non-abelian monopoles; 3) moduli space of complexified flat gauge connections. The second theory based on non-abelian monopole equations has only one topological supersymmetry,  $\mathcal{N}_T = 1$ . On the other hand, theories 1) and 3) have  $\mathcal{N}_T = 2$  topological supersymmetry.

For example, in the Vafa-Witten  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  twisted gauge theory, the deformation complex is [91]:

$$(38) \quad \begin{aligned} 0 \rightarrow \Omega_S^0(\text{ad}P) &\rightarrow \Omega_S^0(\text{ad}P) \oplus \Omega_S^1(\text{ad}P) \oplus \Omega_S^{2,+}(\text{ad}P) \\ &\rightarrow \Omega_S^1(\text{ad}P) \oplus \Omega_S^{2,+}(\text{ad}P) \rightarrow 0 \end{aligned}$$

For comparison, let us write the deformation complex in the generalization of  $\mathcal{N} = 2$  Seiberg-Witten theory, where the monopole fields take values in  $\Gamma(S, S^+ \otimes E)$ ,

$$0 \rightarrow \Omega^0(g_E) \rightarrow \Omega^1(g_E) \oplus \Gamma(S, S^+ \otimes E) \rightarrow \Omega^{2,+}(g_E) \oplus \Gamma(S, S^- \otimes E) \rightarrow 0$$

Here,  $g_E$  denotes the representation of the Lie algebra  $g = \text{Lie}(G)$  associated to a representation  $R$ . If  $P \rightarrow S$  is the principal  $G$ -bundle over  $S$ , and  $V$  is

a vector space associated with representation  $R$ , we can form the associated vector bundle  $E = P \times_G V$ .

In order to compare the deformation complex of the six-dimensional gauge theory on  $X_S$  with deformation complexes in familiar four-dimensional topological gauge theories (1)-(3), we now assume that  $S$  is Kähler, and use the famous result of Donaldson. Namely, for a bundle  $E$  over a Kahler surface  $S$ , we can identify the moduli space of irreducible ASD connections with the set of equivalence classes of stable holomorphic bundles  $\mathcal{E}$  which are topologically equivalent to  $E$ . We fix the holomorphic line bundle  $\det \mathcal{E}$  so that  $G = SU(n)$ . There are natural isomorphisms

$$(39) \quad \begin{aligned} \Omega^1(g_E) &\cong \Omega^{0,1}(\text{End}_0 \mathcal{E}) \\ \Omega^0(g_E) \oplus \Omega^{2,+}(g_E) &\cong \Omega^0(\text{End}_0 \mathcal{E}) \oplus \Omega^{0,2}(\text{End}_0 \mathcal{E}) \end{aligned}$$

where  $\text{End}_0 \mathcal{E}$  denotes the trace-free endomorphisms of the stable holomorphic vector bundle  $\mathcal{E}$ . Using such isomorphisms, we can write the deformation complex (32) as

$$0 \rightarrow \Omega^0 \rightarrow \Omega^0 \oplus \Omega^1 \oplus \Omega^{2,+} \rightarrow \Omega^1 \oplus \Omega^{2,+} \rightarrow 0$$

where elements of all these spaces are valued in  $g_E$  associated with  $\text{End}_0(\mathcal{E})$ . Now, this complex does look like the deformation complex (38) in Vafa-Witten theory!

On a Kähler surface  $S$ , we further have isomorphisms

$$\begin{aligned} S^+ &= \Omega^{0,0} \oplus \Omega^{0,2} \\ S^- &= \Omega^{0,1} \\ \Omega_{\mathbb{C}}^{2,+} &= \Omega^{2,0} \oplus \Omega^0 \cdot \omega \oplus \Omega^{0,2} \end{aligned}$$

As pointed out in [88], there is a simple way to relate the Vafa-Witten theory on  $S$  and the Donaldson-Thomas theory on  $X_S$ . Given a stable bundle  $\mathcal{E}$  on  $S$ , let  $i_* \mathcal{E}$  be the pushforward torsion sheaf on  $X_S$  supported on  $S$ . This gives an inclusion  $i_* : \mathcal{M}(S) \rightarrow \mathcal{M}(X_S)$ , whose image is a connected component of  $\mathcal{M}(X_S)$ . The restriction of the deformation theory on  $\mathcal{M}(X_S)$  to  $i_* \mathcal{M}(S)$  coincides with that on  $\mathcal{M}(S)$ .

#### 4. DIMENSIONAL REDUCTION OF DT THEORY TO 2D $\sigma$ -MODEL

**4.1. Topological reduction.** The second duality we consider is similar to the topological reduction of four-dimensional gauge theory studied in [9]. Namely, we consider  $X$  to be of the form  $X = \Sigma_\ell \times S$ , where  $\Sigma_\ell$  is a Riemann surface of genus  $\ell$  and  $S$  is a Kähler surface. Let  $g_\Sigma$  and  $g_S$  be the metrics of  $\Sigma$  and of  $S$ , respectively. We first consider a general rescaling

$$g_\Sigma \rightarrow t^p g_\Sigma, \quad g_S \rightarrow t^q g_S$$

where  $t$  is a positive number which tends to zero. Then the Lagrangian density of the Yang-Mills action scales as

$$F_X \wedge * F_X \rightarrow t^p F_S \wedge * F_S + 2t^q (d_S A_\Sigma - D_\Sigma A_S) \wedge * (d_S A_\Sigma - D_\Sigma A_S) + t^{-p+2q} F_\Sigma \wedge * F_\Sigma.$$

When  $(p, q) = (0, 1)$ , we have  $g_\Sigma \rightarrow g_\Sigma$ ,  $g_S \rightarrow tg_S$  ( $S$  is “small”), and  $F_X \wedge *F_X \rightarrow F_S \wedge *F_S + 2t(d_S A_\Sigma - D_\Sigma A_S) \wedge *(d_S A_\Sigma - D_\Sigma A_S) + t^2 F_\Sigma \wedge *F_\Sigma$ .

The resulting theory is the 4d Vafa-Witten theory discussed in section 3.

This section concerns the case  $(p, q) = (-1, 0)$ . In this case, we have

$$g_\Sigma \rightarrow \frac{1}{t}g_\Sigma, \quad g_S \rightarrow g_S \quad (\Sigma \text{ is “large”}),$$

$$F_X \wedge *F_X \rightarrow \frac{1}{t}F_S \wedge *F_S + 2(d_S A_\Sigma - D_\Sigma A_S) \wedge *(d_S A_\Sigma - D_\Sigma A_S) + tF_\Sigma \wedge *F_\Sigma.$$

As in [9], the resulting theory on  $\Sigma_\ell$  is  $\mathcal{N} = 2$  topological sigma-model, whose target space is the moduli space of solutions to the equations in the *four-dimensional* gauge theory on  $S$ . As we explained in Section 3, these are anti-self-dual gauge fields on  $S$  (when vanishing theorems hold). Therefore, after the topological reduction we obtain  $\mathcal{N} = 2$  sigma-model on  $\Sigma_\ell$  with the target space  $\mathcal{M}_{ASD}(S)$ .

Since the six-dimensional theory is topological, it should not matter whether we reduce on  $S$  or on  $\Sigma_\ell$ . This means that the partition function  $Z_{DT}(X)$  should be equal to the partition function of the four-dimensional gauge theory on  $S$ , as well as to the partition function of the  $\mathcal{N} = 2$  sigma-model on  $\Sigma_\ell$ ,

$$Z_{DT}(X) = Z_{4D}(S) = Z_{2D}(\Sigma_\ell)$$

**4.2. Moduli spaces of instantons and correlation functions.** We consider a general gauge group  $G$  which can be any compact connected Lie group. Let  $\mathcal{M}_{ASD}(S, G)$  denote the moduli space of gauge equivalence classes of ASD  $G$ -connections on  $S$ , which are solutions to (18). Let  $\mathcal{M}_{HYM}(\Sigma_\ell \times S, G)$  denote the moduli space of gauge equivalence classes of HYM  $G$ -connections on  $\Sigma_\ell \times S$ , which are solutions to (5). Each of the spaces  $\mathcal{M}_{ASD}(S, G)$  and  $\mathcal{M}_{HYM}(\Sigma_\ell \times S, G)$  can be represented as a union of components labelled by the topological type of the underlying topological principal  $G$ -bundle.

When  $G$  is semi-simple, the ASD equation (18) is equivalent to the 2-dimensional version of the HYM equations (5). When  $G$  is not semi-simple, there is a topological obstruction to the existence of ASD connections. Let  $H$  be the connected component of  $Z(G)$ , the center of  $G$ . Then  $H$  is a compact torus. Let  $G_{ss} = [G, G]$  be the commutator subgroup, which is also the maximal connected semisimple subgroup of  $G$ . There is a finite cover  $H \times G_{ss} \rightarrow G$  given by  $(h, g) \mapsto hg$ . This is a group homomorphism. The kernel is isomorphic to  $D = H \cap G_{ss}$  which is a finite subgroup of  $H$ . Note that  $G_{ss}$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$ . Consider the exact sequence of abelian groups

$$1 \rightarrow \pi_1(G_{ss}) \rightarrow \pi_1(G) \rightarrow \pi_1(G/G_{ss}) \rightarrow 1$$

where  $G/G_{ss} = H/D \cong \mathbb{Z}^{\oplus \dim_{\mathbb{R}} H}$ . We have

$$\dots \rightarrow H^2(S, \pi_1(G_{ss})) \rightarrow H^2(S, \pi_1(G)) \xrightarrow{\text{deg}} H^2(S, \mathbb{Z})^{\oplus \dim_{\mathbb{R}} H} \rightarrow \dots$$



Let  $m = o_2(P) \in H^2(S, \pi_1(G))$  be the magnetic flux of a principal  $G$ -bundle  $P$ , so that  $\deg(m) = (m_1, \dots, m_r)$ , where  $m_i \in H^2(S; \mathbb{Z})$  and  $r = \dim_{\mathbb{R}} H$ . Then  $P$  admits an ASD connection only if  $m_i \cdot [k_0] = 0$ , where  $k_0$  is the Kähler class. Given  $c \in H^2(S; \mathbb{Z}) \setminus \{0\}$ , let

$$\Gamma_c = \{k \in H^{1,1}(S) \mid c \wedge k \wedge k = 0\}.$$

Then  $\Gamma_c$  is a real codimension-1 subspace of  $H^{1,1}(S)$ . Choose  $k_0$  such that

$$[k_0] \notin \bigcup_{c \in H^2(S; \mathbb{Z}), c \neq 0} \Gamma_c$$

Then  $m_i \cdot [k_0] = 0$  implies  $m_i = 0$ . In this case  $P$  admits an ASD connection only if

$$\deg(P) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \deg(o_2(P)) = 0 \in H^2(S; \mathbb{Z})^{\oplus r}.$$

For example, when  $G = U(N)$ , we have  $G_{ss} = SU(N)$  and  $o_2(P) = \deg(P) = c_1(P)$ . When  $G = SO(N)$  ( $N > 2$ ), we have  $G_{ss} = SO(N)$ ,  $o_2(P) = w_2(P)$ , and  $\deg(P) = 0$ .

The complexification  $G^{\mathbb{C}}$  of  $G$  is a connected reductive algebraic group over  $\mathbb{C}$ . The moduli space  $\mathcal{M}_{\text{ASD}}(S, G)$  can be identified with the moduli space  $\mathcal{M}(S, G^{\mathbb{C}})$  of  $S$ -equivalence classes of semi-stable holomorphic principal  $G^{\mathbb{C}}$ -bundles of degree zero on  $S$  [24], and the moduli space  $\mathcal{M}_{\text{HYM}}(\Sigma_{\ell} \times S, G)$  can be identified with the moduli space  $\mathcal{M}(\Sigma_{\ell} \times S, G^{\mathbb{C}})$  of  $S$ -equivalence classes of semi-stable holomorphic principal  $G^{\mathbb{C}}$ -bundles over  $\Sigma_{\ell} \times S$  [89, 1].

The partition function of the  $\mathcal{N} = 2$  sigma-model on  $\Sigma_{\ell}$  localizes on  $\text{Mor}(\Sigma_{\ell}, \mathcal{M}(S, G^{\mathbb{C}}))$ , the space of holomorphic maps from  $\Sigma_{\ell}$  to  $\mathcal{M}(S, G^{\mathbb{C}})$ . The partition function of the Donaldson-Thomas theory on  $\Sigma_{\ell} \times S$  localizes on  $\mathcal{M}(\Sigma_{\ell} \times S, G^{\mathbb{C}})$ . We now construct a map between the two moduli spaces  $\text{Mor}(\Sigma_{\ell}, \mathcal{M}(S, G^{\mathbb{C}}))$  and  $\mathcal{M}(\Sigma_{\ell} \times S, G^{\mathbb{C}})$ . Let  $\mathcal{P} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}(S, G^{\mathbb{C}}) \times S$  be the universal principal  $G^{\mathbb{C}}$ -bundle. (It does not exist as a usual principal bundle, see e.g. [50, Section 7.1].) Given a holomorphic map  $u : \Sigma_{\ell} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}(S, G^{\mathbb{C}})$ , we get a holomorphic principal  $G^{\mathbb{C}}$ -bundle  $(u \times \text{id}_S)^* \mathcal{P}$  over  $\Sigma_{\ell} \times S$ . We get a map

$$(40) \quad \Phi : \text{Mor}(\Sigma_{\ell}, \mathcal{M}(S, G^{\mathbb{C}})) \longrightarrow \mathcal{M}(\Sigma_{\ell} \times S, G^{\mathbb{C}}), \quad u \mapsto (u \times \text{id}_S)^* \mathcal{P}$$

which is birational.

Let  $\mathcal{O}_1, \dots, \mathcal{O}_k$  be observables in the  $\sigma$ -model on  $\Sigma_{\ell}$ . Our topological reduction implies that there are corresponding observables  $\tilde{\mathcal{O}}_1, \dots, \tilde{\mathcal{O}}_k$  in the DT theory on  $\Sigma_{\ell} \times S$  such that

$$(41) \quad \langle \mathcal{O}_1 \cdots \mathcal{O}_k \rangle = \langle \tilde{\mathcal{O}}_1 \cdots \tilde{\mathcal{O}}_k \rangle$$

Geometrically, these correlation functions should be interpreted as intersection numbers on moduli spaces  $\text{Mor}(\Sigma_{\ell}, \mathcal{M}(S, G^{\mathbb{C}}))$  and  $\mathcal{M}(\Sigma_{\ell} \times S, G^{\mathbb{C}})$ . To define these intersection numbers, we need to compactify these moduli spaces.

When  $S$  is a projective surface, the moduli spaces  $\mathcal{M}(S, G^{\mathbb{C}})$  and  $\mathcal{M}(\Sigma_{\ell} \times S, G^{\mathbb{C}})$  can be compactified using algebraic geometry. When  $G = U(N)$ ,

$G^{\mathbb{C}} = GL(N, \mathbb{C})$ , these moduli spaces can be identified with moduli spaces of isomorphism classes of polystable holomorphic vector bundles, and the compactified moduli spaces are obtained by including semistable torsion free sheaves. For general  $G$ , the compactified moduli spaces  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}(S, G^{\mathbb{C}})$  and  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}(\Sigma_{\ell} \times S, G^{\mathbb{C}})$  are obtained by including semistable *principal sheaves* [31] or *singular principal bundles* [82]. These compactified moduli spaces are projective but may have singularities.

To compactify  $\text{Mor}(\Sigma_{\ell}, \mathcal{M}(S, G^{\mathbb{C}}))$ , we first compactify the target and get a partial compactification  $\text{Mor}(\Sigma_{\ell}, \overline{\mathcal{M}}(S, G^{\mathbb{C}}))$  which consists of morphisms from  $\Sigma_{\ell}$  to  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}(S, G^{\mathbb{C}})$ . The final compactification  $\overline{\text{Mor}}(\Sigma_{\ell}, \overline{\mathcal{M}}(S, G^{\mathbb{C}}))$  is obtained by including stable maps from a curve with a root component isomorphic to  $\Sigma_{\ell}$  and bubble components which are spheres. Ideally, (40) extends to a morphism  $\Phi : \overline{\text{Mor}}(\Sigma_{\ell}, \mathcal{M}(S, G^{\mathbb{C}})) \rightarrow \overline{\mathcal{M}}(\Sigma_{\ell} \times S, G^{\mathbb{C}})$ . The inverse is a rational map: a semi-stable  $G^{\mathbb{C}}$ -bundle  $P \rightarrow \Sigma_{\ell} \times S$  representing an element in  $\mathcal{M}(\Sigma_{\ell} \times S, G^{\mathbb{C}})$  defines a morphism  $\Sigma_{\ell} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}(S, G^{\mathbb{C}})$ .

$$\tilde{\mathcal{O}}_i \in H^*(\overline{\mathcal{M}}(\Sigma_{\ell} \times S, G^{\mathbb{C}})), \quad \mathcal{O}_i = \Phi^* \tilde{\mathcal{O}}_i \in H^*(\overline{\text{Mor}}(\Sigma_{\ell}, \overline{\mathcal{M}}(S, G^{\mathbb{C}}))).$$

The correlation functions (41) can be interpreted as intersection numbers of the cohomology classes  $\mathcal{O}_i$ 's and  $\tilde{\mathcal{O}}_i$ 's. For a singular moduli space one needs a virtual fundamental class to define intersection theory. The topological reduction suggests that there exist virtual fundamental classes such that

$$\Phi_* [\overline{\text{Mor}}(\Sigma_{\ell}, \overline{\mathcal{M}}(S, G^{\mathbb{C}}))]^{\text{vir}} = [\overline{\mathcal{M}}(\Sigma_{\ell} \times S, G^{\mathbb{C}})]^{\text{vir}}.$$

Then

$$(42) \quad \int_{[\overline{\text{Mor}}(\Sigma_{\ell}, \overline{\mathcal{M}}(S, G^{\mathbb{C}}))]^{\text{vir}}} \mathcal{O}_1 \cdots \mathcal{O}_k = \int_{[\overline{\mathcal{M}}(\Sigma_{\ell} \times S, G^{\mathbb{C}})]^{\text{vir}}} \tilde{\mathcal{O}}_1 \cdots \tilde{\mathcal{O}}_k.$$

The left and right hand sides of (42) can be viewed as the mathematical definition of the left and right hand sides of (41), respectively.

Here we propose some natural observables such that (42) is expected to hold. Given a point  $p \in \Sigma_{\ell}$ , define

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ev}_p : \overline{\text{Mor}}(\Sigma_{\ell}, \overline{\mathcal{M}}(S, G^{\mathbb{C}})) &\longrightarrow \overline{\mathcal{M}}(S, G^{\mathbb{C}}) \\ u &\mapsto u(p) \\ r_p : \overline{\mathcal{M}}(\Sigma_{\ell} \times S, G^{\mathbb{C}}) &\longrightarrow \overline{\mathcal{M}}(S, G^{\mathbb{C}}) \\ P &\mapsto P|_{\{p\} \times S} \end{aligned}$$

Then  $\text{ev}_p = r_p \circ \Phi$ . Given  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k \in H^*(\overline{\mathcal{M}}(S, G^{\mathbb{C}}))$  and  $k$  distinct points  $p_1, \dots, p_k \in \Sigma_{\ell}$ , define

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \alpha_1 \cdots \alpha_k \rangle_{\sigma|_{ASD}}^{\Sigma_{\ell}|S} &= \int_{[\overline{\text{Mor}}(\Sigma_{\ell}, \overline{\mathcal{M}}(S, G^{\mathbb{C}}))]^{\text{vir}}} \text{ev}_{p_1}^* \alpha_1 \cup \cdots \cup \text{ev}_{p_k}^* \alpha_k \\ \langle \alpha_1 \cdots \alpha_k \rangle_{DT}^{\Sigma_{\ell} \times S} &= \int_{[\overline{\mathcal{M}}(\Sigma_{\ell} \times S, G^{\mathbb{C}})]^{\text{vir}}} r_{p_1}^* \alpha_1 \cup \cdots \cup r_{p_k}^* \alpha_k \end{aligned}$$

The definition is independent of choices of  $p_1, \dots, p_k$ . The correlation functions  $\langle \alpha_1 \cdots \alpha_k \rangle_{\sigma|_{ASD}}^{\Sigma_\ell|S}$  are  $k$ -point *mixed*<sup>7</sup> Gromov-Witten invariants of  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}(S, G^{\mathbb{C}})$ . We should have

$$(43) \quad \langle \alpha_1 \cdots \alpha_k \rangle_{\sigma|_{ASD}}^{\Sigma_\ell|S} = \langle \alpha_1 \cdots \alpha_k \rangle_{DT}^{\Sigma_\ell \times S}$$

**4.3. Abelian theory.** In the abelian theory,

$$\mathcal{M}_{ASD}(S) \cong \text{Hilb}^k S$$

which is a resolution of the symmetric product orbifold,  $\text{Sym}^k S$ . In this case, DT theory on  $\Sigma_\ell \times S$  is related to GW theory on  $\Sigma_\ell \times S$  by the GW/DT correspondence conjectured in [64, 65]. These lead to the equivalence of the following theories:

- S1 Gromov-Witten theory on  $\Sigma_\ell \times S$ .
- S2 Donaldson-Thomas theory on  $\Sigma_\ell \times S$ .
- S3 Mixed Gromov-Witten invariants with domain  $\Sigma_\ell$  and target  $\text{Hilb}^k S$ .

We now give a more precise conjecture relating S2 and S3. We first introduce correlation functions in S3. Classical cohomology ring of  $\text{Hilb}^k S$  is determined first for  $\mathbb{C}^2$  in [53, 92] and then for K3 [54]. The general case is treated in [17]. As vector spaces, there is an isomorphism:

$$\mathcal{F} = \text{Sym}^*(t^{-1}\mathbb{Q}[t^{-1}] \otimes H^*(S; \mathbb{Q})) \cong \bigoplus_{k \geq 0} H^*(\text{Hilb}^k S; \mathbb{Q}).$$

A basis of  $\mathcal{F}$  is given by *cohomology weighted partitions*

$$\alpha_{-\mu_1}(\gamma_{i_1}) \cdots \alpha_{-\mu_n}(\gamma_{i_n}) | 0).$$

where  $(\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_\ell)$  is a partition, and  $\{\gamma_i\}$  is a basis of the cohomology group  $H^*(S; \mathbb{Q})$ .

Assume that  $3\ell - 3 + n \geq 0$ , so that the moduli space  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{\ell, n}$  of genus  $\ell$ ,  $n$ -pointed stable curves is nonempty. We fix  $n$  distinct points  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  on  $\Sigma_\ell$ , and let  $\xi \in H^{6\ell-6+2n}(\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{\ell, n}; \mathbb{Q})$  be the Poincaré dual of the point class  $[(\Sigma_\ell, x_1, \dots, x_n)] \in \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{\ell, n}$ . Given  $\beta \in H_2(\text{Hilb}^k S, \mathbb{Z})$ , let  $\pi : \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{\ell, n}(\text{Hilb}^k S, \beta) \rightarrow \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{\ell, n}$  be the forgetful map. We have the following genus  $\ell$ ,  $n$ -point, mixed Gromov-Witten invariants:

$$\langle (\mu^1, \delta^1), \dots, (\mu^n, \delta^n) \rangle_{\xi, \beta} = \int_{[\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{\ell, n}(\text{Hilb}^k S, \beta)]^{\text{vir}}} \pi^* \xi \cup \prod_{i=1}^n \text{ev}_i^*(\mu^i, \delta^i)$$

where

$$\mu^i \in \mathcal{P}, \quad |\mu^i| = k, \quad \delta^i \in H^*(S; \mathbb{Q})^{\otimes \ell(\mu^i)}.$$

Let  $\{D_1, \dots, D_m\}$  be a basis of  $H^2(S; \mathbb{Z})$ . Then

$$\tilde{D}_0 = \alpha_{-2}(1) (\alpha_{-1}(1))^{k-1} | 0), \quad \tilde{D}_i = \alpha_{-1}(D_i) (\alpha_{-1}(1))^{k-1} | 0), \quad i = 1, \dots, m$$

<sup>7</sup>since we fix the complex structure of the domain

form a basis of  $H^2(\text{Hilb}^k(S); \mathbb{Z})$ . Define

$$(44) \quad \langle (\mu^1, \delta^1), \dots, (\mu^k, \delta^n) \rangle_{\xi}^{\text{Hilb}^k(S)} = \sum_{\beta \in H_2(\text{Hilb}^k(S); \mathbb{Z})} \sum_{\beta} \langle (\mu^1, \delta^1), \dots, (\mu^k, \delta^n) \rangle_{\xi, \beta} \tilde{q}_0^{\beta \cdot \tilde{D}_0} \prod_{j=1}^m \tilde{q}_j^{\beta \cdot \tilde{D}_j}$$

We next introduce correlation functions in S2. We fix  $n$  distinct points  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  on  $\Sigma_{\ell}$  as before. Given  $\beta \in H_2(S; \mathbb{Z})$ , there are maps

$$\epsilon_i : I_s(\Sigma_{\ell} \times S / \{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \times S, k[\Sigma_{\ell}] + \beta) \rightarrow \text{Hilb}^k(\{x_i\} \times S) \cong \text{Hilb}^k(S, \mathbb{Z}), \quad i = 1, \dots, n.$$

Let  $(\mu^i, \delta^i)$  be cohomology weighted partitions as above. Define

$$(45) \quad \langle (\mu^1, \delta^1), \dots, (\mu^n, \delta^n) \rangle_{s, \beta}^{DT(\xi, S)} = \int_{[I_s(\Sigma_{\ell} \times S / \{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \times S, k[\Sigma_{\ell}] + \beta)]^{\text{vir}}} \prod_{i=1}^n \epsilon_i^*(\mu^i, \delta^i). \\ \langle (\mu^1, \delta^1), \dots, (\mu^n, \delta^n) \rangle_k^{DT(\xi, S)} \\ = q^{-k} \sum_{s \in \mathbb{Z}} \sum_{\beta \in H_2(S, \mathbb{Z})} \langle (\mu^1, \delta^1), \dots, (\mu^n, \delta^n) \rangle_{s, \beta}^{DT(\xi, S)} q^s \prod_{j=1}^m q_j^{\beta \cdot D_j}$$

**Conjecture 1** (Maulik-Oblomkov). *Let  $S$  be a hyper-Kähler surface. Then*

$$(46) \quad \langle (\mu^1, \delta^1), \dots, (\mu^n, \delta^n) \rangle_{\xi}^{\text{Hilb}^k(S)} = \langle (\mu^1, \delta^1), \dots, (\mu^n, \delta^n) \rangle_k^{DT(\xi, S)}$$

Maulik and Oblomkov's original conjecture concerns the genus zero case (i.e.  $\Sigma_{\ell} = \mathbb{P}^1$ ), but the general case should follow from the genus 0 case by degenerating  $\Sigma_{\ell}$  to a union of  $\mathbb{P}^1$ 's. Maulik and Oblomkov have checked that Conjecture 1 fails for Enriques surfaces.

**Conjecture 2** (Maulik-Oblomkov). *Let  $S$  be a Fano surface, and let  $\Sigma_{\ell} = \mathbb{P}^1$ . Let  $c_1(S) = \sum_{j=1}^m c_j D_j$ . Then*

$$(47) \quad \langle (\mu^1, \delta^1), \dots, (\mu^n, \delta^n) \rangle_{\xi}^{\text{Hilb}^k(S)} = \langle (\mu^1, \delta^1), \dots, (\mu^n, \delta^n) \rangle_k^{DT(\xi, S)}$$

with  $\tilde{q}_0 = q$ ,  $\tilde{q}_j = (1 - q^{-1})^{c_j} q_j$ .

Maulik and Oblomkov have checked Conjecture 2 for  $\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{C}$  and  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^1}(-1) \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^1$ .

We summarize some known results which motivated the above conjectures. When the genus  $\ell = 0$ , then 3-point correlation functions in  $Z_{2D}(\Sigma_0) = Z_{2D}(\mathbb{P}^1)$  are the structure constants of the quantum cohomology ring of  $\mathcal{M}_{ASD}(S)$ . Here we consider small quantum cohomology, so the structure constants of the quantum product involves 3-point genus zero Gromov-Witten invariants. The big quantum cohomology involves  $n$ -point genus zero Gromov-Witten invariants, which are not the same as the  $n$ -point mixed Gromov-Witten invariants. The crepant resolution conjecture asserts that the quantum cohomology ring of  $\text{Hilb}^k S$  is isomorphic to the orbifold quantum cohomology ring of  $\text{Sym}^k S$  [97, 90, 18]

When  $S = \mathbb{C}^2$ ,  $\Sigma_0 \times S = \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{C}^2$  is non-compact, so a priori neither GW theory nor DT theory is defined. Using the torus action on  $\mathbb{C}^2$ , one can define equivariant GW and DT theories.

- C1 Equivariant Gromov-Witten theory on  $\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{C}^2$ .
- C2 Equivariant Donaldson-Thomas theory on  $\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{C}^2$ .
- C3 Equivariant quantum cohomology of  $\text{Hilb}_k \mathbb{C}^2$ .
- C4 Equivariant orbifold quantum cohomology of  $\text{Sym}^k \mathbb{C}^2$ .

The equivalences among C1, C2, C3 are proved by Bryan, Okounkov, Pandharipande [15, 79, 80], whereas the equivalence between C3 and C4 is studied in [13].

Maulik and Oblomkov established the equivalence of the following theories when  $S$  is an ADE resolution.

- A1 Equivariant Gromov-Witten theory on  $\mathbb{P}^1 \times S$ .
- A2 Equivariant Donaldson-Thomas theory on  $\mathbb{P}^1 \times S$ .
- A3 Equivariant quantum cohomology of  $\text{Hilb}_k S$ .

In particular,  $C2 \Leftrightarrow C3$  and  $A2 \Leftrightarrow A3$  are special cases of the equivariant version of (46).

We may consider the case where  $S$  is a orbifold.

- O1 Equivariant orbifold Gromov-Witten theory on  $\mathbb{P}^1 \times [\mathbb{C}^2/\mathbb{Z}_{n+1}]$ .
- O2 Equivariant Donaldson Thomas theory on  $\mathbb{P}^1 \times [\mathbb{C}^2/\mathbb{Z}_{n+1}]$ .
- O3 Equivariant quantum cohomology of  $\text{Hilb}_k[\mathbb{C}^2/\mathbb{Z}_{n+1}]$ .

By Maulik-Okounkov [67], when  $S = \mathcal{A}_n$  (resolution of  $A_n$ -singularity), A3 is equivalent of O3, which can be viewed as an example of Ruan's Crepant Transformation Conjecture. Z. Zhou [98] established the equivalence between O2 and O3.

Finally, let  $S$  be a smooth projective K3 surface. The Gromov-Witten theories of  $K3$  and  $K3 \times \mathbb{P}^1$  are trivial, so one considers reduced Gromov-Witten theory defined by reduced virtula class. The compact case is much more difficult than the non-compact case.

- R1 Reduced Gromov-Witten theory of  $\mathbb{P}^1 \times S$
- R2 Reduced Donaldson-Thomas theory on  $\mathbb{P}^1 \times S$ .
- R3 Reduced quantum cohomology of  $\text{Hilb}_k S$ .

G. Oberdieck studies R1 and R3 in [74] and [73], respectively. In [73], Oberdieck conjectures a fomrula for the quantum multiplication with divisor classes on  $\text{Hilb}_k S$ , and prove the conjecture in the first non-trivial case  $\text{Hilb}_2 S$ .

## 5. DIMENSIONAL REDUCTION OF TORSION DT THEORY

**5.1. Seiberg-Witten invariants via Mochizuki's wall crossing.** Let  $S$  be a smooth projective surface and  $h$  an ample divisor on it. We assume that  $H^1(\mathcal{O}_S) = 0$  and the arithmetic genus  $p_g = \dim H^2(\mathcal{O}_S) > 0$ . (For instance, any smooth hypersurface in a quintic 3-fold satisfies this assumption.) Let

us take an element

$$v = (2, a, n) \in H^0(S) \oplus H^2(S) \oplus H^4(S)$$

such that  $h \cdot a$  is an odd number. Then by this choice, any  $h$ -semistable sheaf  $E \in \text{Coh}(S)$  with  $\text{ch}(E) = v$  is  $h$ -stable. Now define  $\mathcal{M}_h(v)$  to be the moduli space of  $h$ -stable sheaves  $E \in \text{Coh}(S)$  with  $\text{ch}(E) = v$ . For simplicity, we assume that there exists a universal sheaf  $\mathcal{E} \in \text{Coh}(S \times \mathcal{M}_h(v))$ . Let  $p_M$  be the projection from  $S \times \mathcal{M}_h(v)$  to  $\mathcal{M}_h(v)$ . We have the decomposition

$$\mathbf{R}p_{M*} \mathbf{R}\mathcal{H}om(\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{E}) = \mathbf{R}p_{M*} \mathbf{R}\mathcal{H}om(\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{E})_0 \oplus \mathbf{R}p_{M*} \mathcal{O}_{S \times \mathcal{M}_h(v)}$$

and the perfect obstruction theory

$$E_{\mathcal{M}_h(v)}^\bullet := \mathbf{R}p_{M*} \mathbf{R}\mathcal{H}om(\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{E})_0^\vee \rightarrow \mathbf{L}_{\mathcal{M}_h(v)}.$$

We have the associated virtual cycle  $[\mathcal{M}_h(v)]^{\text{vir}}$  whose virtual dimension  $d$  is

$$d = a^2 - 4n - 3\chi(\mathcal{O}_S).$$

Now let  $P(\mathcal{E})$  be a polynomial in the slant products  $\text{ch}_i(\mathcal{E})/b$  for the elements  $b \in H^*(S)$  and  $i \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ . By the wall crossing argument using the master space, Mochizuki described the invariant

$$\int_{[\mathcal{M}_h(v)]^{\text{vir}}} P(\mathcal{E})$$

in terms of the Seiberg-Witten invariants and certain integration over the Hilbert schemes of points on  $S$ .

The SW invariant is then defined as follows: for any  $c \in \text{NS}(S)$ , let  $L$  be the line bundle on  $S$  such that  $c_1(L) = c$ , which is uniquely determined following the assumption that  $H^1(\mathcal{O}_S) = 0$ . Let  $M(c)$  be the moduli space of non-zero morphisms  $\mathcal{O}_S \rightarrow L$ , which is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{P}(H^0(S, L))$ . The natural deformation theory of pairs  $\mathcal{O}_S \rightarrow L$  induces an obstruction bundle  $\mathcal{O}(c)$  on  $M(c)$ , which fits into the exact sequence

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \rightarrow H^1(S, L) \otimes \mathcal{O}_{M(c)}(1) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(c) \rightarrow H^2(S, \mathcal{O}_S) \otimes \mathcal{O}_{M(c)} \\ \rightarrow H^2(S, L) \otimes \mathcal{O}_{M(c)}(1) \rightarrow 0. \end{aligned}$$

The virtual cycle  $[M(c)]^{\text{vir}}$  is defined to be the Euler class of  $\mathcal{O}(c)$ . If it is non-zero, then the virtual dimension is zero<sup>8</sup>, and

$$\text{SW}(c) = \int_{[M(c)]^{\text{vir}}} 1.$$

By setting  $d(c) = h^0(S, L) - 1$ , the SW invariant is computed as (cf. [71, Proposition 6.3.1])

$$\text{SW}(c) = (-1)^{d(c)} \binom{p_g - 1}{d(c)}.$$

---

<sup>8</sup>The  $p_g > 0$  assumption is required here in [71, Proposition 6.3.1].

Let  $S^{[n]}$  be the Hilbert scheme of  $n$ -points in  $S$ . For  $j = 1, 2$ , let  $\mathcal{Z}_i \subset S \times S^{[n_i]}$  be the universal subscheme and  $\mathcal{I}_i \subset \mathcal{O}_{S \times S^{[n_i]}}$  be its ideal sheaf. Below we consider the decomposition

$$a_1 + a_2 = a, \quad a_i \in \text{NS}(S).$$

We denote by  $e^{a_i}$  the line bundle on  $S$  whose first Chern class equals to  $a_i$ . We define  $Q(\mathcal{I}_1 e^{a_1-s}, \mathcal{I}_2 e^{a_2+s})$  to be the Euler class of the following  $\mathbb{C}^*$ -equivariant virtual vector bundle on  $S^{[n_1]} \times S^{[n_2]}$ :

$$-\mathbf{R}p_* \mathbf{R}\mathcal{H}om(\mathcal{I}_1 e^{a_1-s}, \mathcal{I}_2 e^{a_2+s}) - \mathbf{R}p_* \mathbf{R}\mathcal{H}om(\mathcal{I}_2 e^{a_2+s}, \mathcal{I}_1 e^{a_1-s}).$$

Here  $s$  is the equivariant parameter with respect to the trivial  $\mathbb{C}^*$ -action, and  $p$  is the projection from  $S \times S^{[n_1]} \times S^{[n_2]}$  to  $S^{[n_1]} \times S^{[n_2]}$ . All the equivariant sheaves in the derived inner Hom's are pulled back to  $S \times S^{[n_1]} \times S^{[n_2]}$ .

We also consider the rank  $n_i$  vector bundle on  $S^{[n_i]}$ , given by

$$\mathcal{V}_i = p_*(\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{Z}_i} \otimes e^{a_i})$$

We define  $\mathcal{A}(a_1, a_2, v)$  to be

$$(48) \quad \mathcal{A}(a_1, a_2, v) = \sum_{\substack{n_1+n_2=n-a_1a_2 \\ n_1 > n_2}} \int_{S^{[n_1]} \times S^{[n_2]}} \text{Res}_{s=0} \left( \frac{P(\mathcal{I}_1 e^{a_1-s} \oplus \mathcal{I}_2 e^{a_2+s})}{Q(\mathcal{I}_1 e^{a_1-s}, \mathcal{I}_2 e^{a_2+s})} \frac{e(\mathcal{V}_1) \cdot e(\mathcal{V}_2 e^{2s})}{(2s)^{n_1+n_2-p_g}} \right).$$

The following result was obtained by Mochizuki:

**Theorem 1.** (Mochizuki [71, Theorem 1.4.6]) *Assume that  $ah > 2K_S h$  and  $\chi(v) = \int_S v \cdot \text{td}_S \geq 1$ . Then we have the following formula:*

$$\frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathcal{M}_h(v)} P(\mathcal{E}) = - \sum_{\substack{a_1+a_2=a \\ a_1 h < a_2 h}} \text{SW}(a_1) \cdot 2^{1-\chi(v)} \cdot \mathcal{A}(a_1, a_2, v).$$

**Remark 1.** *Note that the factor  $1/2$  in the LHS comes from the difference between Mochizuki's convention and ours. Mochizuki used the moduli space of oriented stable sheaves, which is a  $\mu_2$ -gerb over our moduli space  $\mathcal{M}_h(v)$ .*

**Remark 2.** *The assumptions  $ah > 2K_S h$  and  $\chi(v) \geq 1$  are satisfied if we replace  $v$  by  $v \cdot e^{kh}$  for  $k \gg 0$ .*

**5.2. Torsion DT invariants and Seiberg-Witten theory.** Let  $(S, h)$  and  $v \in H^*(S, \mathbb{Q})$  be as in the previous subsection, and consider

$$(49) \quad \pi: X_S = \omega_S \rightarrow S$$

the total space of the canonical line bundle on  $S$ . Note that  $X_S$  is a non-compact Calabi-Yau 3-fold, i.e.  $\omega_{X_S} \cong \mathcal{O}_{X_S}$ . Denote

$$(50) \quad \text{Coh}_c(X_S) \subset \text{Coh}(X_S)$$

to be the abelian category of coherent sheaves on  $X_S$  whose supports are compact. The slope function  $\mu_h$  on  $\text{Coh}_c(X_S) \setminus \{0\}$  defined as

$$\mu_h(E) = \frac{c_1(\pi_* E) \cdot h}{\text{rank}(\pi_* E)} \in \mathbb{Q} \cup \{\infty\}$$

determines a slope stability condition on  $\text{Coh}_c(X_S)$  in the usual way. Let  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_h(v)$  be the moduli space of  $\mu_h$ -stable sheaves  $E \in \text{Coh}_c(X_S)$  with  $\text{ch}(\pi_* E) = v = \langle r, \gamma, n \rangle$ . The DT invariant for the local surface  $X$  is then defined by

$$(51) \quad \text{DT}_h(v) = \int_{\overline{\mathcal{M}}_h(v)} \nu_M d\chi.$$

Here  $\nu_M$  is Behrend's constructible function [7] on  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_h(v)$ .

The one-dimensional complex torus  $\mathbb{C}^*$  acts on  $X_S$  by re-scaling on the fibers of  $\pi$ . By the localization, the DT invariant (51) coincides with the integration of  $\nu_M$  over the  $\mathbb{C}^*$ -fixed locus  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_h(v)^{\mathbb{C}^*}$ . Note that the moduli space  $\mathcal{M}_h(v)$  is an open and closed subscheme of  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_h(v)^{\mathbb{C}^*}$ .

Now let  $\overline{\mathcal{E}} \in \text{Coh}(X_S \times \overline{\mathcal{M}}_h(v))$  be the universal family, and  $p_{\overline{\mathcal{M}}}$  the projection from  $X_S \times \overline{\mathcal{M}}_h(v)$  to  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_h(v)$ . Let  $\mathbf{R}\mathcal{H}om(\overline{\mathcal{E}}, \overline{\mathcal{E}})_0$  be the cone of the composition

$$\mathbf{R}\mathcal{H}om_{\overline{\mathcal{M}}_h(v) \times X_S}(\overline{\mathcal{E}}, \overline{\mathcal{E}}) \xrightarrow{\pi^*} \mathbf{R}\mathcal{H}om_{\overline{\mathcal{M}}_h(v) \times S}(\pi_* \overline{\mathcal{E}}, \pi_* \overline{\mathcal{E}}) \xrightarrow{\text{tr}} \mathcal{O}_{\overline{\mathcal{M}}_h(v) \times S}.$$

We obtain the  $\mathbb{C}^*$ -fixed trace-free perfect<sup>9</sup> obstruction theory

$$(52) \quad E_{\overline{\mathcal{M}}_h(v)}^\bullet := (\mathbf{R}p_{\overline{\mathcal{M}}}^* \mathbf{R}\mathcal{H}om(\overline{\mathcal{E}}, \overline{\mathcal{E}})_0[1])^{\vee \mathbb{C}^*} \rightarrow \mathbf{L}_{\overline{\mathcal{M}}_h(v)^{\mathbb{C}^*}}.$$

Let  $[\overline{\mathcal{M}}_h(v)^{\mathbb{C}^*}]^{\text{vir}}$  be the associated virtual fundamental class. Instead of working with the invariant (51), we can consider the invariant

$$(53) \quad \overline{\overline{\text{DT}}}_h(v) = \int_{[\overline{\mathcal{M}}_h(v)^{\mathbb{C}^*}]^{\text{vir}}} c \left( (\mathbf{R}p_{\overline{\mathcal{M}}}^* \mathbf{R}\mathcal{H}om(\overline{\mathcal{E}}, \overline{\mathcal{E}})_0[1])^{\vee \mathbb{C}^*} \right).$$

**Remark 3.** Here the definition of the invariant (53) is motivated by Fantechi-Göttsche's virtual Euler numbers [27, Section 4]. In fact, it coincides with the virtual Euler number of  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_h(v)$  up to a sign. In particular, when  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_h(v)^{\mathbb{C}^*}$  is non-singular with the expected dimension, then the above invariant coincides with the topological Euler number of  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_h(v)$  up to a sign.

Now let  $r = 2$ . The  $\mathbb{C}^*$ -fixed locus  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_h(v)^{\mathbb{C}^*}$  decomposes into two components

$$\overline{\mathcal{M}}_h(v)^{\mathbb{C}^*} = \mathcal{M}_h(v) \coprod \widehat{\mathcal{M}}_h(v)$$

where  $\mathcal{M}_h(v)$  is, roughly speaking, the moduli space of  $\mu_h$ -stable torsion-free sheaves of rank 2 on  $S$ , and  $\widehat{\mathcal{M}}_h(v)$  is the moduli space of  $\mathbb{C}^*$ -fixed  $\mu_h$ -stable sheaves with rank one on the "fat" surface  $2S$ . Now we can define the DT invariants associated to each component, by restricting the obstruction

<sup>9</sup>By the Serre duality and the non-trivial  $\mathbb{C}^*$ -weight on  $\omega_S$ , the higher obstruction space vanishes after taking the  $\mathbb{C}^*$ -fixed part.



theory in (52) to each component and integrating against the corresponding induced virtual cycle. Let

$$(54) \quad \widehat{\text{DT}}_h(v) = \int_{[\widehat{\mathcal{M}}_h(v)]^{\text{vir}}} c \left( (\mathbf{R}p_{\overline{M}^*} \mathbf{R}\mathcal{H}om(\overline{\mathcal{E}}, \overline{\mathcal{E}})_0[1])^{\vee \mathbb{C}^*} \right)$$

be the contribution from the “fat” surface  $2S$  and

$$(55) \quad \text{DT}_h(v) = \int_{[\mathcal{M}_h(v)]^{\text{vir}}} c \left( (\mathbf{R}p_{\overline{M}^*} \mathbf{R}\mathcal{H}om(\overline{\mathcal{E}}, \overline{\mathcal{E}})_0[1])^{\vee \mathbb{C}^*} \right)$$

be the contribution from rank 2 sheaves on  $S$ . Note that, as we saw in the last section, the latter contributions have been computed in some cases by Mochizuki [71] (look at Theorem 1). On the other hand, it can be shown [32, Proposition 3.13, 3.14, Corollary 3.15, and Proposition 3.21] that the contribution of  $\widehat{\mathcal{M}}_h(v)$  to  $\widehat{\text{DT}}_h(v)$  is given by the invariants of “nested Hilbert schemes” on  $S$ , denoted by  $S_\beta^{[n_1 > n_2]}$ , parametrizing 2-step flags  $\mathcal{I}_{Z_1}(-C_1) \hookrightarrow \mathcal{I}_{Z_2}$  of (possibly twisted) ideal sheaves of subschemes,  $(Z_1, Z_2), (C_1)$  of  $S$ , where  $Z_i, i = 1, 2$  are zero dimensional subschemes of  $S$  with length  $n_1, n_2$  respectively,  $C_1 \subset S$  is a divisor with  $[C_1] = \beta$  for some suitable  $\beta$ , such that  $Z_2$  is a subscheme of  $Z_1 \cup C_1$  (hence it induces the injective map of the corresponding ideal sheaves). We then prove the following identity in [32, Theorem 7] relating  $\overline{\text{DT}}_h(v)$  to SW invariants and the invariants of nested Hilbert schemes contributing to  $\widehat{\text{DT}}_h(v)$ .

$$(56) \quad \overline{\text{DT}}_h(v) = - \sum_{\substack{a_1 + a_2 = a \\ a_1 h < a_2 h}} \text{SW}(a_1) \cdot 2^{1-\chi(v)} \cdot \mathcal{A}(a_1, a_2, v) + \widehat{\text{DT}}_h(v).$$

Here  $\widehat{\text{DT}}_h(v)$  is, roughly speaking, given as a sum over the contribution of nested Hilbert schemes  $S_\beta^{[n_1 > n_2]}$ , for all allowed values of  $n_1, n_2, \beta$  induced by the choice of  $v$ . It must be pointed out that by S-duality consideration, the generating series of the invariants on the left-hand side of (56) is expected to be given by a vector valued modular form of weight  $-\frac{3}{2}$ , while the generating series of  $\widehat{\text{DT}}_h(v)$  is also (in some cases) shown to be given by modular forms of certain weight [32, Theorem 5]. Therefore, equation (56) implies that the generating series of the Seiberg-Witten invariants (despite not being necessarily modular itself) can in some cases be written with respect to modular forms.

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