

The elliptic genus of K3 and CFT

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP “MOCK MODULAR FORMS AND PHYSICS”

IMSc, Chennai, India, April 14-18, 2014

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- [Taormina/W11] *The overarching finite symmetry group of Kummer surfaces in the Mathieu group M_{24}* ,
JHEP **1308**:152 (2013); arXiv:1107.3834 [hep-th]
- [Taormina/W12] *A twist in the M_{24} moonshine story*; arXiv:1303.3221 [hep-th]
- [Taormina/W13] *Symmetry-surfing the moduli space of Kummer K3s*; arXiv:1303.2931 [hep-th]
- [W14] *Snapshots of conformal field theory*; arXiv:1404.3108 [hep-th];
to appear in “Mathematical Aspects of Quantum Field Theories”,
Mathematical Physics Studies, Springer

Motivation: The Atiyah-Singer Index Theorem

Atiyah-Singer Index Theorem and McKean-Singer Formula

For M : a compact oriented $2D$ -dimensional **spin manifold**,

$W \rightarrow M$: a vector bundle with associated **Dirac operator** \not{D} ,

$$\int_M \widehat{A}(M) \text{ch}(W) = \text{ind}(\not{D}) = \text{sTr} \left(e^{-t\not{D}^2} \right),$$

where:

$\widehat{A}(M) = \det^{1/2} \left(\frac{R/2}{\sinh(R/2)} \right)$ is the **A-roof-genus**, $R \in \mathcal{A}^2(M, \mathfrak{so}(TM))$ the **Riemannian curvature** wrt some metric, and **ch**(W) is the **Chern character** $\text{ch}(W) = \text{sTr}(\exp(-F^W))$, F^W the **curvature** of W .

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M : a **Calabi-Yau D -fold**,

$T := T^{1,0}M$ the **holomorphic tangent bundle** of M , $E \rightarrow M$ a **holomorphic bundle**,

\implies **holomorphic Euler characteristic**: $\chi(E) = \int_M \text{Td}(M) \text{ch}(E)$

with $\text{Td}(M) = \det \left(\frac{R^+}{1 - e^{-R^+}} \right)$ the **Todd class**, R^+ the **holomorphic curvature** of T

The elliptic genus \mathcal{E}_M of M [Hirzebruch88, Witten88]

$\mathcal{E}_M(\tau, z)$: **weight 0 weak Jacobi form** in $\tau, z \in \mathbb{C}$ ($\text{Im}(\tau) > 0, q = e^{2\pi i\tau}$),

$$\mathcal{E}_M(\tau, z = 0) = \chi(M)$$

$$\mathcal{E}_M(\tau, z = \frac{1}{2}) = (-1)^{D/2} \sigma(M) + \mathcal{O}(q),$$

$$q^{D/4} \mathcal{E}_M(\tau, z = \frac{\tau+1}{2}) = (-1)^{D/2} \chi(\mathcal{O}_M) + \mathcal{O}(q)$$

$\mathcal{E}_M(\tau, z)$ is a regularization of an **equiv. index** on $\mathcal{L}M = C^0(S^1, M)$.

[Landweber-Stong88, Ochanine88; Zagier88, Taubes89]

with $T = T^{1,0}M$ the **holomorphic tangent bundle** ($y = e^{2\pi iz}$):

$$\int_M \text{Td}(M) \text{ch}(\mathbb{E}_{q,-y}) = \mathcal{E}_M(\tau, z)$$

$$\mathbb{E}_{q,-y} := y^{-D/2} \bigotimes_{n=1}^{\infty} [\Lambda_{-yq^{n-1}} T^* \otimes \Lambda_{-y^{-1}q^n} T \otimes S_{q^n} T^* \otimes S_{q^n} T],$$

$$\Lambda_x E = \bigoplus_{p=0}^{\infty} x^p \Lambda^p E, \quad S_x E = \bigoplus_{p=0}^{\infty} x^p S^p E,$$

$$\text{ch}(\Lambda_x E) = \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} x^p \text{ch}(\Lambda^p E), \quad \text{ch}(S_x E) = \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} x^p \text{ch}(S^p E)$$

The elliptic genus \mathcal{E}_M of M [Hirzebruch88, Witten88]

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[Zagier88, Taubes89, Eguchi/Ooguri/Taormina/Yang89]

with $T = T^{1,0}M$ the **holomorphic tangent bundle** ($y = e^{2\pi iz}$):

$$\int_M \text{Td}(M) \text{ch}(\mathbb{E}_{q,-y}) = \mathcal{E}_M(\tau, z) = \text{sTr}_{\mathcal{H}_R} \left(y^{J_0} q^{L_0 - D/8} \bar{q}^{\bar{L}_0 - D/8} \right),$$

$$\mathbb{E}_{q,-y} := y^{-D/2} \bigotimes_{n=1}^{\infty} [\Lambda_{-yq^{n-1}} T^* \otimes \Lambda_{-y^{-1}q^n} T \otimes S_{q^n} T^* \otimes S_{q^n} T],$$

\mathcal{H}_R : **Ramond sector** of any superconformal field theory associated to M ,
 J_0, L_0, \bar{L}_0 : zero modes of the $U(1)$ -current and Virasoro fields in the SCA

The elliptic genus of $K3$

Introduction

- 1 From indices to $U(1)$ -equivariant loop space indices
- 2 A sigma model interpretation
- 3 The elliptic genus of $K3$
- 4 Some conjectures

1. From indices to $U(1)$ -equivariant loop space indices

[Hirzebruch78] with $c(T) = \prod_{j=1}^D (1 + x_j)$ (splitting principle):

$$\begin{aligned}
 \chi_y(M) &:= \sum_{p,q} (-1)^q y^p h^{p,q} \\
 &= \sum_p y^p \sum_q (-1)^q \dim H^q(M, \Lambda^p T^*) \\
 &= \sum_p y^p \chi(\Lambda^p T^*) = \int_M \text{Td}(M) \sum_p y^p \text{ch}(\Lambda^p T^*) \\
 &= \int_M \text{Td}(M) \text{ch}(\Lambda_y T^*) = \int_M \prod_{j=1}^D x_j \frac{1 + ye^{-x_j}}{1 - e^{-x_j}}
 \end{aligned}$$

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Let $\mathcal{L}M = C^0(\mathbb{S}^1, M)$,

q : a topological generator of \mathbb{S}^1 ; $\mathcal{L}M^{\mathbb{S}^1} = M \hookrightarrow \mathcal{L}M$ (constant loops),

so for $p \in M$: $T_p(\mathcal{L}M) = \mathcal{L}(T_p M) = T_p M \oplus \mathcal{N}$, $\mathcal{N} = \bigoplus_{n \in \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0\}} q^n T_p M$,

where $q^n T_p M \cong T_p M$: the eigenspace of q_* with eigenvalue q^n , $n \in \mathbb{Z}$,

$$\begin{aligned} \chi_y(q, \mathcal{L}M) &:= \int_M \prod_{j=1}^D \left\{ x_j \frac{1 + ye^{-x_j}}{1 - e^{-x_j}} \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[\frac{1 + q^n ye^{-x_j}}{1 - q^n e^{-x_j}} \cdot \frac{1 + q^n y^{-1} e^{x_j}}{1 - q^n e^{x_j}} \right] (-y)^{\zeta(0)} \right\} \\ &= \int_M \text{Td}(M) \text{ch}(\mathbb{E}_{q,y}) \\ &\quad \mathbb{E}_{q,y} = (-y)^{-D/2} \Lambda_y T^* \otimes \bigotimes_{n=1}^{\infty} [\Lambda_y q^n T^* \otimes \Lambda_{y^{-1} q^n} T \otimes S_{q^n} T^* \otimes S_{q^n} T] \end{aligned}$$

Definition of the elliptic genus

Theorem [Hirzebruch88, Witten88, Krichever90,
Borisov/Libgober00]

The elliptic genus

$$\mathcal{E}_M(\tau, z) := \int_M \text{Td}(M) \text{ch}(\mathbb{E}_{q,-y}) \quad (q=e^{2\pi i\tau}, y=e^{2\pi iz})$$

of a Calabi-Yau D -fold M is a weak Jacobi form
of weight 0 and index $\frac{D}{2}$.

Chiral de Rham complex

Definition [Malikov/Schechtman/Vaintrob99]

Ω_M^{ch} : sheaf of vertex algebras over M

sections over $U \subset M$ with holomorphic coordinates z_1, \dots, z_D :

vertex algebra generated by fields $\phi^j, \rho^j, \psi_j, \rho_j, j \in \{1, \dots, D\}$,

where $\phi^j \leftrightarrow z_j, \rho^j \leftrightarrow \frac{\partial}{\partial z_j}, \psi_j \leftrightarrow dz_j, \rho_j \leftrightarrow \frac{\partial}{\partial(dz_j)}$

$\phi^j, \rho^j, \psi_j, \rho_j \in \text{End}(\mathcal{H})[[x, x^{-1}]]$ with

$$\forall i, j, m, n: \quad \phi^j(x) = \sum_n \phi_n^j x^{-n}, \quad \rho^j(x) = \sum_n \rho_{j,n} x^{-n-1},$$

$$\psi^j(x) = \sum_n \psi_n^j x^{-n}, \quad \rho_j(x) = \sum_n \rho_{j,n} x^{-n-1},$$

where $[\phi_n^i, \rho_{j,m}] = \delta_j^i \delta_{n,-m}, \{\psi_n^i, \rho_{j,m}\} = \delta_j^i \delta_{n,-m} \forall m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$;

\mathcal{H} : the Fock space built on $|0\rangle$ from $\phi_n^j, \rho_{j,m}, \psi_n^j, \rho_{j,m}, n, m \in \mathbb{Z}$,

with $\phi_n^j|0\rangle = \psi_n^j|0\rangle = 0 \forall n > 0$ and $\rho_{j,m}|0\rangle = \rho_{j,m}|0\rangle = 0 \forall m \geq 0$

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Theorem [Malikov/Schechtman/Vaintrob99; Borisov/Libgober00]

There are globally well-defined fields on M ,

$$L^{top} = - : p_j \partial \phi^j : - : \rho_j \partial \psi^j :, J = : \rho_j \psi^j :, Q = - : \psi^j p_j :, G = : \rho_j \partial \phi^j :,$$

which yield a (topological) $N = 2$ superconformal algebra.

The elliptic genus $\mathcal{E}_M(\tau, z)$ is the bigraded Euler characteristic of Ω_M^{ch} , and $H^*(M, \Omega_M^{ch})$ is a topological $N = 2$ superconformal vertex algebra.

... and topologically half twisted sigma model

Theorem [Kapustin05]

There is a **fine resolution** $\Omega_M^{ch,Dol}$ of Ω_M^{ch} obtained by **introducing variables** $\phi^{\bar{j}}, \psi^{\bar{j}}$,

where $\psi^{\bar{j}}$ determines the **grading** and $d_{Dol} := \psi^{\bar{j}} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi^{\bar{j}}}$,
such that

$$\mathcal{E}_M(\tau, z) = \text{sTr}_{H^*(\Omega_M^{ch,Dol})} \left(y^{J_0 - D/2} q^{L_0^{top}} \right).$$

The d_{Dol} -cohomology $H^*(\Omega_M^{ch,Dol})$ is the **large volume limit** of the **BRST-cohomology** \mathcal{H}_{NS}^{BRST} of Witten's **half-twisted σ -model** on M .

Conclusion:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{E}_M(\tau, z) &\stackrel{\text{spectral flow}}{=} \text{sTr}_{\mathcal{H}_R^{BRST}} \left(y^{J_0} q^{L_0 - D/8} \right) \\ &= \text{sTr}_{\mathcal{H}_R} \left(y^{J_0} q^{L_0 - D/8} \bar{q}^{\bar{L}_0 - D/8} \right) = \mathcal{E}_{CFT}(\tau, z). \end{aligned}$$

3. The elliptic genus of K3

For every K3 surface M ,

$$\mathcal{E}_{K3}(\tau, z) = 8 \left(\frac{\vartheta_2(\tau, z)}{\vartheta_2(\tau, 0)} \right)^2 + 8 \left(\frac{\vartheta_3(\tau, z)}{\vartheta_3(\tau, 0)} \right)^2 + 8 \left(\frac{\vartheta_4(\tau, z)}{\vartheta_4(\tau, 0)} \right)^2.$$

For every $N = (2, 2)$ SCFT at central charges $c = \bar{c} = 6$ with space-time SUSY and integral $U(1)$ charges:

The theory has $N = (4, 4)$ SUSY, and its CFT elliptic genus either vanishes, or it agrees with $\mathcal{E}_{K3}(\tau, z)$.

Definition (K3 THEORY):

An $N = (2, 2)$ SCFT at $c = \bar{c} = 6$ with space-time SUSY, integral $U(1)$ charges and CFT elliptic genus $\mathcal{E}_{K3}(\tau, z)$.

Decomposition into irreducible $N = 4$ characters

3 types of $N = 4$ irreps \mathcal{H}_\bullet with $\chi_\bullet(\tau, z) = \text{sTr}_{\mathcal{H}_\bullet}(y^{J_0} q^{L_0 - 1/4})$:

- vacuum \mathcal{H}_0 with $\chi_0(\tau, 0) = -2$
- massless matter $\mathcal{H}_{1/2}$ with $\chi_{1/2}(\tau, 0) = 1$
- massive matter \mathcal{H}_h ($h \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$), $\chi_h(\tau, z) = q^h \tilde{\chi}(\tau, z)$, $\chi_h(\tau, 0) = 0$

Ansatz: $\mathcal{H}_R = \mathcal{H}_0 \otimes \bar{\mathcal{H}}_0 \oplus 20 \mathcal{H}_{1/2} \otimes \bar{\mathcal{H}}_{1/2}$
 $\oplus \left(\bigoplus_{0 < n \in \mathbb{N}} [f_n \mathcal{H}_n \otimes \bar{\mathcal{H}}_0 \oplus \bar{f}_n \mathcal{H}_0 \otimes \bar{\mathcal{H}}_n] \right)$
 $\oplus \left(\bigoplus_{0 < m \in \mathbb{N}} [g_m \mathcal{H}_m \otimes \bar{\mathcal{H}}_{1/2} \oplus \bar{g}_m \mathcal{H}_{1/2} \otimes \bar{\mathcal{H}}_m] \right)$
 $\oplus \bigoplus_{0 < h, \bar{h} \in \mathbb{R}} k_{h, \bar{h}} \mathcal{H}_h \otimes \bar{\mathcal{H}}_{\bar{h}}$

where all $f_n, \bar{f}_n, g_m, \bar{g}_m, k_{h, \bar{h}}$ are non-negative integers.

\Rightarrow

$$\mathcal{E}_{K3}(\tau, z) = -2\chi_0(\tau, z) + 20\chi_{1/2}(\tau, z) + 2e(\tau)\tilde{\chi}(\tau, z),$$

$$2e(\tau) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (g_n - 2f_n)q^n$$

Conjecture [Ooguri89, W00]

$g_n - 2f_n \geq 0$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ proved in [Eguchi/Hikami09].

4. Some conjectures

Conjecture [Eguchi/Ooguri/Tachikawa10]

For all n , $g_n - 2f_n$ gives the **dimension** of a non-trivial **representation** of the **Mathieu group** M_{24} .

Proved in [Gannon12], using results of **Cheng, Duncan, Gaberdiel, Hohenegger, Persson, Ronellenfitsch, Volpato**.

4. Some conjectures

Theorem [Eguchi/Ooguri/Tachikawa10,Gannon12]

There exists a representation \mathcal{R}_n of M_{24} for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$, such that

$$\lim_{vol \rightarrow \infty} (\mathcal{H}_R^{BRST}) \cong (-2)\mathcal{H}_0 \oplus 20\mathcal{H}_{1/2} \oplus \bigoplus_{n=1}^{\infty} (\mathcal{R}_n \oplus \overline{\mathcal{R}}_n) \otimes \mathcal{H}_n$$

as a representation of M_{24} and of the N=4 superconformal algebra.

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WHY?

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as a **representation** of M_{24} and of the $N=4$ superconformal algebra.

WHY?

Theorem [Mukai88]

If G is a **symmetry group** of a K3 surface M ,

that is, G **fixes** the **two-forms** that define the **hyperkähler structure** of M ,

then G is isomorphic to a **subgroup** of the **Mathieu group** M_{24} ,
and $|G| \leq 960 \ll 244.823.040 = |M_{24}|$.

Some open conjectures

Observation [Taormina/W10-13]

The map $\mathcal{H}_R \rightarrow \lim_{vol \rightarrow \infty} (\mathcal{H}_R^{BRST})$ depends on the choice of a geometric interpretation; SO: restrict to geometric symmetry groups.

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In every geometric interpretation,

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as a representation of the geometric symmetry group $G \subset M_{24}$; the rhs collects the symmetries from distinct points of the moduli space.

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Evidence [Taormina/W13]

\mathcal{R}_1 as common representation space of all geometric symmetry groups of Kummer K3s yields an action of the maximal subgroup $\mathbb{Z}_2^4 \rtimes A_8 \subset M_{24}$ induced from an irrep of M_{24} on \mathcal{R}_1 .

A simpler open conjecture

Recall:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{E}_{K3}(\tau, z) &= \int_{K3} \text{Td}(K3) \text{ch}(\mathbb{E}_{q,-y}) \\ &= -2\chi_0(\tau, z) + 20\chi_{1/2}(\tau, z) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (g_n - 2f_n)\chi_n(\tau, z)\end{aligned}$$

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Conjecture [W13]

There are **polynomials** p_n for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$, such that

$$\mathbb{E}_{q,-y} = -\mathcal{O}_{K3}\chi_0(\tau, z) - T\chi_{1/2}(\tau, z) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} p_n(T)\chi_n(\tau, z),$$

where $2 \dim(\mathcal{R}_n) = g_n - 2f_n = \int_{K3} \text{Td}(K3) p_n(T)$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Moreover, $p_n(T) \rightarrow \mathcal{R}_n \oplus \overline{\mathcal{R}}_n$ carries a **natural action** of every **geometric symmetry group** $G \subset M_{24}$ of K3.

THE END

THANK YOU
FOR YOUR ATTENTION!