

**Instanton counting, Donaldson invariants,  
line bundles on moduli spaces of sheaves  
on rational surfaces**

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## (0) Introduction

**Donaldson invariants:**  $C^\infty$ -inv. of compact 4-manifolds

For  $X$  proj. surface: intersection number  $\int_M \mu(L)^d$  on moduli space  $M_H^X(c_1, c_2)$  of  $H$ -stable rk 2 sheaves on  $X$

**Nekrasov partition function**  $Z(\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2, a, \Lambda)$ :

generating function of "equiv. Donaldson inv. of  $\mathbf{A}^2$ "

equivariant intersection number of moduli of instantons  $M(n)$ .

$X$  proj. toric surface  $\implies X$  glued together from  $\mathbf{A}^2$ 's

**Aim A:** Compute Donaldson invariants of  $X$  in terms of Nekrasov partition function

**$K$ -theory Nekrasov partition function**  $Z^K(\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2, a, \Lambda)$ :  
 generating function for  $ch(H^*(M(n), \mathcal{O}))$   
 "  $K$ -theoretic Donaldson invariants of  $\mathbf{A}^2$ "

$L$  line bundle on  $X$   $\mapsto$   $\bar{L} := \mathcal{O}(\mu(L))$  Donaldson I. b.  
 on  $M_H^X(c_1, c_2)$

**Aim B:** Compute  $\chi(M_H^X(c_1, c_2), \bar{L})$  in terms of  $Z^K$

**Note:** D-inv  $\phi_{X, c_1}^H(c_1(L)^d) = \int_{M_H^X(c_1, c_2)} c_1(\bar{L})^d$

Riemann-Roch  $\implies \chi(M, \bar{L}) = \phi_{X, c_1}^H(c_1(\bar{L})^d)/d! + l.o.t$

## Motivation:

(1) Nekrasov partition function is closely related to relation Seiberg Witten-invariants  $\longleftrightarrow$  Donaldson invariants

(2) Formula can be viewed as analogue of topological vertex formula

(3)  $\chi(M, \bar{L})$  should be  $K$ -theoretic Donaldson invariants (still not constructed).

Want to understand analogues of all basic properties of Donaldson-invariants

## (1) Nekrasov Partition function

Instanton moduli space  $\mathbf{P}^2 = \mathbf{A}^2 \cup l_\infty$ ,

$$M(n) := \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{framed coh. sheaves } (E, \phi) \text{ on } \mathbf{P}^2 \\ rk(E) = 2, c_2(E) = n, \phi : E|_{l_\infty} \simeq \mathcal{O}_{l_\infty}^{\oplus 2} \end{array} \right\}$$

smooth quasiproj, dim  $4n$

### Torus Action:

$\mathbf{C}^* \times \mathbf{C}^*$  acts on  $(\mathbf{P}^2, l_\infty)$ :  $(e^{\epsilon_1}, e^{\epsilon_2})(z_1, z_2) = (e^{\epsilon_1} z_1, e^{\epsilon_2} z_2)$

$\mathbf{C}^*$  acts on  $M(n)$  by change of framing

$$e^a(E, \phi) = (E, \text{diag}(e^a, e^{-a}) \circ \phi)$$

Fixpoint set of  $(\mathbf{C}^*)^3$  is finite:

$$\left\{ (I_{Z_1} \oplus I_{Z_2}, id) \mid Z_i \in \text{Hilb}^{n_i}(\mathbf{A}^2, 0), \text{ ideal gen. by monomials} \right\}$$

Let  $X$  variety over  $\mathbf{C}$  with action of  $T = (\mathbf{C}^*)^k = \{(e^{w_1}, \dots, e^{w_k})\}$  and  $X^T = \{p_1, \dots, p_e\}$

**Equiv. cohom.**  $H_T^*(X)$ : module over  $H_T^*(pt) = \mathbf{C}[w_1, \dots, w_k]$

**Equiv. integration:**  $X$  compact,  $\tilde{\alpha}$  equiv. lift of  $\alpha \in H^*(X)$

$$\int_X \alpha = \sum_{p_i} \frac{\tilde{\alpha}|_{p_i}}{c_{top}(T_{p_i}X)} \Big|_{w_1=\dots=w_k=0}$$

Note  $\tilde{\alpha}|_{p_i}, c_{top}(T_{p_i}X) \in \mathbf{C}[w_1, \dots, w_k]$

**Nekrasov Partition function**

$M(n)$  with action of  $(\mathbf{C}^*)^3 = \{(e^{\epsilon_1}, e^{\epsilon_2}, e^a)\}$

$$Z^{inst}(\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2, a, \Lambda) = \sum_{n \geq 0} \Lambda^{4n} \int_{M(n)} 1 \in \mathbf{C}(\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2, a)[[\Lambda]]$$

$$Z(\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2, a, \Lambda) = Z^{inst} \cdot Z^{per}$$

## Nekrasov conjecture

(Nekrasov-Okounkov, Yoshioka-Nakajima)

- (1)  $Z = \exp\left(\frac{F(\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2, a, \Lambda)}{\epsilon_1 \epsilon_2}\right)$ ,  $F$  regular at  $\epsilon_1 = \epsilon_2 = 0$
- (2)  $F_0 = F|_{\epsilon_1 = \epsilon_2 = 0}$  is Seiberg-Witten prepotential (periods of SW-curve, a family of elliptic curves).

## $K$ -theory Nekrasov Partition function

$$Z_K^{inst}(\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2, a, \Lambda) = \sum_{n \geq 0} \Lambda^{4n} e^{-(\epsilon_1 + \epsilon_2)n} \sum_i (-1)^i \text{ch}(H^i(M(n), \mathcal{O})) \in \mathbb{C}(\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2, a)[[\Lambda]]$$

in equivariant  $K$ -theory. Eigenspaces of are finite dim.

$$Z_K = Z_K^{inst} \cdot Z_K^{per}$$

(Yoshioka-Nakajima): Similar result for  $Z_K$

Same statement, different family of elliptic curves

Know also next two orders in  $\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2$  of  $F$  and  $F_K$

## (2) Review of Donaldson invariants for alg. surfaces

$(X, H)$  projective surface

$$M_H^X(c_1, c_2) = \{H\text{-stable rank 2 sheaves}\}$$

$\mathbf{E} \rightarrow X \times M$  universal sheaf

$$L \in H_2(X) \mapsto \mu(L) = (2c_2(\mathbf{E}) - \frac{1}{2}c_1(\mathbf{E})^2)/L \in H^2(M)$$

$$\phi_{c_1, H}^X(\exp(L)) = \sum_n \int_{M_H^X(c_1, n)} \exp(\mu(L)) \wedge^{\dim(M)}$$

- $p_g(X) > 0$ : independent of  $H$
- $p_g(X) = 0$ : depends on  $H$  via system of walls and chambers in ample cone  $C_X$



**Walls:**  $\xi \in H^2(X, \mathbf{Z})$  defines wall of type  $(c_1, c_2)$  if  
 $\xi \equiv c_1 \pmod{2H^2(X, \mathbf{Z})}$  and  $4c_2 - c_1^2 + \xi^2 \geq 0$   
Wall  $W^\xi := \{H \in \mathbf{C}_X \mid H \cdot \xi = 0\}$

**Chambers**=connected components of  $\mathbf{C}_X \setminus$  walls  
 $M_X^H(c_1, c_2)$  and invariants constant on chambers, change when  
 $H$  crosses wall (i.e.  $H_- \rightarrow H_+$  with  $H_- \xi < 0 < H_+ \xi$ )

**Kotschick-Morgan conj.:** wallcrossing for Donaldson inv.  
is polynomial in  $\langle \xi, L \rangle, L^2$ , coefficients depend only on  $c_2$ ,  
 $\xi^2$  and topology of  $X$

**Using K-M conjecture** [G] determined gen. function for  
wallcrossing in terms of modular forms  
See also Moore-Witten, Marino-Moore

### (3) Donaldson inv. and $\chi(M, \bar{L})$ versus Nekrasov part. fctn

$X$  smooth toric surface, has  $\mathbf{C}^* \times \mathbf{C}^* = \{(e^{\epsilon_1}, e^{\epsilon_2})\}$ -action  
 fixpoints  $\{p_1, \dots, p_e\}$ ,  $w(x_i), w(y_i)$  weights of action on  $T_{p_i}X$   
 Fix  $F$  nef with  $M_F^X(c_1, c_2) = \emptyset$  for all  $c_2$ . For  $H$  ample:

Donaldson invariants:

$$\phi_{c_1, H}^X(\exp(L)) = \sum_{\xi} \lim_{\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2 \rightarrow 0} \text{Coeff}_{t^0} \left( -\frac{t}{\Lambda} \prod_{i=1}^e Z \left( w(x_i), w(y_i), \frac{t - \xi|_{p_i}}{2}, \Lambda e^{\frac{L}{2}|_{p_i}} \right) \right)$$

Here  $\xi \in H^2(X, \mathbf{Z})$  with  $\xi \equiv c_1 \pmod{2}$  and  $\xi H > 0 > \xi F$ .

Holomorphic Euler Characteristic:

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_n \chi(M_H^X(c_1, n), \bar{L}) \Lambda^{\dim M} \\ &= \sum_{\xi} \lim_{\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2 \rightarrow 0} \text{Coeff}_{(e^t)^0} \left( -\frac{1}{\Lambda} \prod_{i=1}^e Z_K \left( w(x_i), w(y_i), \frac{t - \xi|_{p_i}}{2}, \Lambda e^{\frac{2L-K}{4}|_{p_i}} \right) \right) \end{aligned}$$

### (3) Method of proof

$X$  toric surface  $\implies M_H^X(c_1, c_2)$  and Don. inv. depend on chamber of  $H$ . In one chamber moduli space is empty  $\implies$  everything determined by wallcrossing

**Aim:** Relate wallcrossing to partition function.

Let  $\xi$  define wall  $W^\xi$ . When  $H$  crosses wall, sheaves  $E$  in

$$0 \rightarrow I_Z((\xi + c_1)/2) \rightarrow E \rightarrow I_W((-\xi + c_1)/2) \rightarrow 0, \quad (Z, W) \in X^{[l]} \times X^{[m]}$$

( $l + m = 4c_2 - c_1^2 + \xi^2$ ) are replaced by extensions the other way round

**Geometrically:** Start with  $M_{H_-}^X(c_1, c_2)$ .

Successively for  $l = 0, 1, \dots, 4c_2 - c_1^2 + \xi^2$ :

- blowup bundle  $\mathbf{P}(\text{Ext}^1(I_W, I_Z(\xi)))$  over  $X^{[l]} \times X^{[m]}$ ,
- blow down exceptional divisor  $D$  to  $\mathbf{P}(\text{Ext}^1(I_Z, I_W(-\xi)))$ .

Finally arrive at  $M_{H_+}^X(c_1, c_2)$ .

Fix  $l, m$ , let  $p : D \rightarrow X^{[l]} \times X^{[m]}$  projection

$$\left[ \text{wallcrossing for D-inv} \right] = \int_D (Ap^*(B)) = \int_{X^{[l]} \times X^{[m]}} (p_* A) B$$

$$\left[ \text{wallcrossing for } \chi(\bar{L}) \right] = \chi(D, A'p^*(B')) = \chi(X^{[l]} \times X^{[m]}, p_*(A')B')$$

Now apply Bott formula on  $X^{[l]} \times X^{[m]}$ :

Action of  $\mathbf{C}^* \times \mathbf{C}^*$  on  $X$  lifts to  $X^{[l]} \times X^{[m]}$

$$\bigcup_{l,m} (X^{[l]} \times X^{[m]})^{(\mathbf{C}^*)^2} = \bigcup_{n_1, \dots, n_e} M(n_1)^{(\mathbf{C}^*)^3} \times \dots \times M(n_e)^{(\mathbf{C}^*)^3}$$

Show: contribution for both sides is the same at **every** fixpoint

$$T_{(Z,W)} X^{[n]} \times X^{[m]} = \text{Ext}^1(I_Z, I_Z) \oplus \text{Ext}^1(I_W, I_W)$$

$$T_{(Z,W)} M(n) = \text{Ext}^1(I_Z, I_Z) \oplus \text{Ext}^1(I_W, I_W) \oplus \text{Ext}^1(I_Z, I_W)e^{2a} \oplus \text{Ext}^1(I_W, I_Z)e^{-2a}$$

## (4) Explicit formulas in modular forms and elliptic functions

Develop  $F = \epsilon_1 \epsilon_2 \log Z$ ,  $F_K = \epsilon_1 \epsilon_2 \log Z_K$ :

$$F(\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2, a, \Lambda) = F_0 + (\epsilon_1 + \epsilon_2)H + \epsilon_1 \epsilon_2 F_1 + (\epsilon_1 + \epsilon_2)^2 G + h.o.t$$

Similarly for  $F_K$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \prod_{i=1}^e Z\left(w(x_i), w(y_i), \frac{t - \xi|_{p_i}}{2}, \Lambda e^{\frac{L}{2}|_{p_i}}\right) &= \exp\left(\sum_{i=1}^e \frac{1}{w(x_i)w(y_i)} F\left(w(x_i), w(y_i), \frac{t - \xi|_{p_i}}{2}, \Lambda e^{\frac{L}{2}|_{p_i}}\right)\right) \\ &= \exp\left(\sum_i \frac{1}{w(x_i)w(y_i)} \frac{\partial^2 F_0}{(\partial a)^2}(t/2, \Lambda) \frac{(\xi|_{p_i})^2}{8} + \dots\right) \\ &= \exp\left(\frac{\partial^2 F_0}{(\partial a)^2} \frac{\xi^2}{8} - \frac{\partial^2 F_0}{\partial \log \Lambda \partial a} \frac{\langle \xi, L \rangle}{4} + \frac{\partial^2 F_0}{(\log \Lambda)^2} \frac{\langle L, L \rangle}{4} + \dots\right) \end{aligned}$$

by Bott formula on  $X$ . Similarly for  $Z_K$ .

Put  $\tau := -\frac{1}{2\pi i} \frac{\partial^2 F_0}{(\partial a)^2}$  period of SW elliptic curve.

$h := -\frac{1}{8} \frac{\partial^2 F_0}{\partial \log \Lambda \partial a}$ ,  $Q := \frac{1}{16} \frac{\partial^2 F_0}{(\partial \log \Lambda)^2}$ , similarly for  $h_K$ ,  $Q_K$ .

$$q := e^{\pi i \tau}, \quad \theta_{\mu\nu}(z, \tau) := \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} (-1)^{(n+\frac{\mu}{2})\nu} q^{(n+\frac{\mu}{2})^2} e^{2\pi i(n+\frac{\mu}{2})z}, \quad \theta_{\mu\nu}(\tau) := \theta_{\mu\nu}(0, \tau), \quad \mu, \nu = 0, 1$$

## Donaldson invariants

$$\phi_{c_1, H}^X(\exp(L)) = \sum_{\xi} \pm \text{Coeff}_{q^0} \left( q^{-(\xi/2)^2} \exp \left( \langle \xi, 2L \rangle h\Lambda + (2L)^2 Q\Lambda^2 \right) \theta_{01}(\tau)^{\sigma(X)} B \right)$$

## Holomorphic Euler characteristic

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \chi(M_H^X(c_1, n), \bar{L}) \Lambda^{\dim(M)} \\ &= \sum_{\xi} \pm \text{Coeff}_{q^0} \left( q^{-(\xi/2)^2} \exp \left( \langle \xi, 2L - K \rangle h_K + (2L - K)^2 Q_K \right) \theta_{01}(\tau)^{\sigma(X)} B_K \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$h_K(\Lambda) = 2\pi i \left( i \frac{\theta_{11}(\bullet, \tau)}{\theta_{01}(\bullet, \tau)} \right)^{-1} = h\Lambda + O(\Lambda^3)$$

$$Q_K = \log \left( \frac{\theta_{01}(\frac{h_K}{2\pi i}, \tau)}{\theta_{01}(\tau)} \right) = Q\Lambda^2 + O(\Lambda^4)$$

$$B_K = \frac{q \frac{d}{dq} \sqrt{(1 - \Lambda^2)^2 + \frac{4\Lambda^2 \theta_{00}(\tau/2)^4}{\theta_{10}(\tau/2)^4}}}{4\Lambda^2 \theta_{10}(\tau/2)^2} = B + O(\Lambda^2)$$