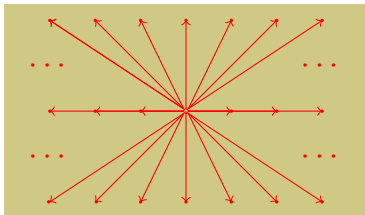


# RIEMANN-HILBERT PROBLEMS FROM DONALDSON-THOMAS THEORY

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Preprints: 1611.03697 and 1703.02776.

# MOTIVATION

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- (II) Stability parameters.

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Fundamental property: Kontsevich-Soibelman wall-crossing formula.

Strong analogy with Stokes factors from differential equations.

# 1. BPS structures.

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A BPS structure  $(\Gamma, Z, \Omega)$  consists of

(A) An abelian group  $\Gamma \cong \mathbb{Z}^{\oplus n}$  with a skew-symmetric form

$$\langle -, - \rangle: \Gamma \times \Gamma \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$$

(B) A homomorphism of abelian groups  $Z: \Gamma \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ ,

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satisfying the conditions:

(I) Symmetry:  $\Omega(-\gamma) = \Omega(\gamma)$  for all  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ ,

(II) Support property: fixing a norm  $\| \cdot \|$  on the finite-dimensional vector space  $\Gamma \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{R}$ , there is a  $C > 0$  such that

$$\Omega(\gamma) \neq 0 \implies |Z(\gamma)| > C \cdot \|\gamma\|.$$

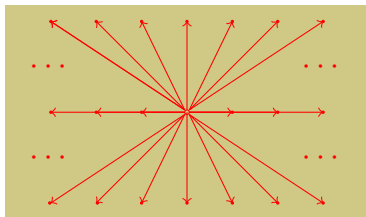
# EXAMPLE: CONIFOLD BPS STRUCTURE

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Take  $\Gamma = \mathbb{Z}^{\oplus 2}$  with  $\langle -, - \rangle = 0$  and  $Z(r, d) = ir - d$ . Set

$$\Omega(\gamma) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \gamma = \pm(1, d) \text{ for some } d \in \mathbb{Z}, \\ -2 & \text{if } \gamma = (0, d) \text{ for some } 0 \neq d \in \mathbb{Z}, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

This arises from DT theory applied to the resolved conifold.



# POISSON ALGEBRAIC TORUS

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Consider the algebraic torus with character lattice  $\Gamma$ :

$$\mathbb{T}_+ = \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(\Gamma, \mathbb{C}^*) \cong (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$$

$$\mathbb{C}[\mathbb{T}_+] = \bigoplus_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \mathbb{C} \cdot x_{\gamma} \cong \mathbb{C}[x_1^{\pm 1}, \dots, x_n^{\pm n}].$$

The form  $\langle -, - \rangle$  induces an invariant Poisson structure on  $\mathbb{T}_+$ :

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More precisely we should work with an associated torsor

$$\mathbb{T}_- = \{g: \Gamma \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^* : g(\gamma_1 + \gamma_2) = (-1)^{\langle \gamma_1, \gamma_2 \rangle} g(\gamma_1) \cdot g(\gamma_2)\},$$

which we call the twisted torus.

# DT HAMILTONIANS



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The DT invariants  $\text{DT}(\gamma) \in \mathbb{Q}$  of a BPS structure are defined by

$$\text{DT}(\gamma) = \sum_{\gamma=n\alpha} \frac{\Omega(\alpha)}{n^2}.$$

For any ray  $\ell = \mathbb{R}_{>0} \cdot z \subset \mathbb{C}^*$  we consider the generating function

$$\text{DT}(\ell) = \sum_{Z(\gamma) \in \ell} \text{DT}(\gamma) \cdot x_\gamma.$$

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We would like to think of the time 1 Hamiltonian flow of the function  $\text{DT}(\ell)$  as defining a Poisson automorphism  $S(\ell)$  of the torus  $\mathbb{T}$ .

# MAKING SENSE OF $S(\ell)$

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## FORMAL APPROACH

Restrict to classes  $\gamma$  lying in a positive cone  $\Gamma^+ \subset \Gamma$ , consider

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## ANALYTIC APPROACH

Restrict attention to BPS structures which are convergent:

$$\exists R > 0 \text{ such that } \sum_{\gamma \in \Gamma} |\Omega(\gamma)| \cdot e^{-R|\text{Z}(\gamma)|} < \infty.$$

Then on suitable analytic open subsets of  $\mathbb{T}$  the sum  $\text{DT}(\ell)$  is absolutely convergent and its time 1 Hamiltonian flow  $S(\ell)$  exists.

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Often the maps  $S(\ell)$  are birational automorphisms of  $\mathbb{T}$ .

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Whenever a ray  $\ell \subset \mathbb{C}^*$  satisfies

- (I) only finitely many active classes have  $Z(\gamma_i) \in \ell$ ,
- (II) these classes are mutually orthogonal  $\langle \gamma_i, \gamma_j \rangle = 0$ ,
- (III) the corresponding BPS invariants  $\Omega(\gamma_i) \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

there is a formula

$$S(\ell)^*(x_\beta) = \prod_{Z(\gamma) \in \ell} (1 - x_\gamma)^{\Omega(\gamma) \cdot \langle \beta, \gamma \rangle}.$$



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- (I) The numbers  $Z_s(\gamma) \in \mathbb{C}$  vary holomorphically.
- (II) For any convex sector  $\Delta \subset \mathbb{C}^*$  the clockwise ordered product

$$S_s(\Delta) = \prod_{\ell \in \Delta} S_s(\ell) \in \text{Aut}(\mathbb{T})$$

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The complete set of numbers  $\Omega_s(\gamma)$  at some point  $s \in S$  determines them for all other points  $s \in S$ .

# EXAMPLE: THE $A_2$ CASE

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Let  $\Gamma = \mathbb{Z}^{\oplus 2} = \mathbb{Z}e_1 \oplus \mathbb{Z}e_2$  with  $\langle e_1, e_2 \rangle = 1$ . Then

$$\mathbb{C}[\mathbb{T}] = \mathbb{C}[x_1^{\pm 1}, x_2^{\pm 1}], \quad \{x_1, x_2\} = x_1 \cdot x_2.$$

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A central charge  $Z: \Gamma \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is determined by  $z_i = Z(e_i)$ . Take

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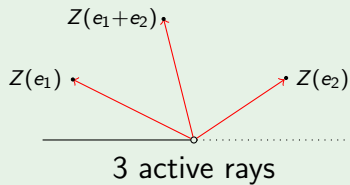
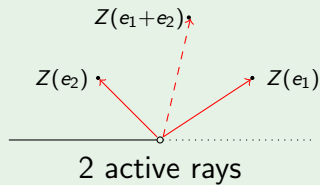
Define BPS invariants as follows:

- (A)  $\text{Im}(z_2/z_1) > 0$ . Set  $\Omega(\pm e_1) = \Omega(\pm e_2) = 1$ , all others zero.
- (B)  $\text{Im}(z_2/z_1) < 0$ . Set  $\Omega(\pm e_1) = \Omega(\pm(e_1 + e_2)) = \Omega(\pm e_2) = 1$ .

# WALL-CROSSING FORMULA: $A_2$ CASE

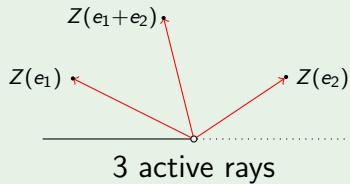
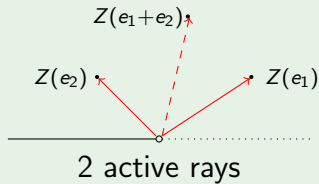
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The wall-crossing formula is the cluster pentagon identity

$$C_{(0,1)} \circ C_{(1,0)} = C_{(1,0)} \circ C_{(1,1)} \circ C_{(0,1)}.$$

$$C_\alpha : x_\beta \mapsto x_\beta \cdot (1 - x_\alpha)^{\langle \alpha, \beta \rangle}.$$

## 2. The Riemann-Hilbert problem.

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(III) (Growth at  $\infty$ ): For any  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  there exists  $k > 0$  with

$$|t|^{-k} < |\Phi_\gamma(t)| < |t|^k \text{ as } t \rightarrow \infty.$$

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Now double the BPS structure: take the lattice  $\Gamma \oplus \Gamma^\vee$  with canonical skew form, and extend  $Z$  and  $\Omega$  by zero. Consider

$$y(t) = \Phi_{\gamma^\vee}(t): \mathbb{C}^* \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^*.$$

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# SOLUTION: THE GAMMA FUNCTION

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The doubled  $A_1$  problem has the unique solution

$$y(t) = \Delta \left( \frac{\pm z}{2\pi i t} \right)^{\mp 1} \quad \text{where} \quad \Delta(w) = \frac{e^w \cdot \Gamma(w)}{\sqrt{2\pi} \cdot w^{w-\frac{1}{2}}},$$

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This is elementary: all you need is

$$\Gamma(w) \cdot \Gamma(1-w) = \frac{\pi}{\sin(\pi w)}, \quad \Gamma(w+1) = w \cdot \Gamma(w),$$

$$\log \Delta(w) \sim \sum_{g=1}^{\infty} \frac{B_{2g}}{2g(2g-1)} w^{1-2g}.$$

# THE TAU FUNCTION

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Suppose given a framed variation of BPS structures  $(\Gamma, Z_p, \Omega_p)$  over a complex manifold  $S$  such that

$$\pi: S \rightarrow \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(\Gamma, \mathbb{C}) = \mathbb{C}^n, \quad s \mapsto Z_s,$$

is a local isomorphism. Taking a basis  $(\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n) \subset \Gamma$  we get local co-ordinates  $z_i = Z_s(\gamma_i)$  on  $S$ .



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Define a function  $\tau = \tau(z_i, t)$  by the relation

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \log \Phi_{\gamma_k}(z_i, t) = \sum_{j=1}^n \epsilon_{jk} \frac{\partial}{\partial z_j} \log \tau(z_i, t), \quad \epsilon_{jk} = \langle \gamma_j, \gamma_k \rangle.$$

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In the  $A_1$  case the  $\tau$ -function is essentially the Barnes G-function.

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$$\log \tau(z, t) \sim \sum_{g \geq 1} \sum_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \frac{\Omega(\gamma) \cdot B_{2g}}{2g(2g-2)} \left( \frac{2\pi it}{Z(\gamma)} \right)^{2g-2}$$

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$$\Gamma = H_2(X, \mathbb{Z}) \oplus \mathbb{Z}, \quad Z(\beta, n) = 2\pi(\beta \cdot \omega_{\mathbb{C}} - n).$$

$$\Omega(\beta, n) = \text{GV}_0(\beta), \quad \Omega(0, n) = -\chi(X).$$



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Can apply this to coherent sheaves on a compact Calabi-Yau threefold supported in dimension  $\leq 1$ . We have

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$$\begin{aligned} \tau(\omega_{\mathbb{C}}, t) &\stackrel{\text{pos. deg}}{\sim} \sum_{g \geq 2} \frac{\chi(X) B_{2g} B_{2g-2}}{4g (2g-2) (2g-2)!} \cdot (2\pi t)^{2g-2} \\ &+ \sum_{\beta \in H_2(X, \mathbb{Z})} \sum_{k \geq 1} \text{GV}_0(\beta) \frac{e^{2\pi i \omega \cdot k \beta}}{4k} \sin^{-2}(i\pi tk). \end{aligned}$$

Matches degenerate contributions from genus 0 GV invariants.

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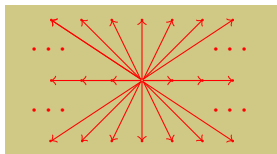
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We get a variation of BPS structures over

$$\{(v, w) \in \mathbb{C}^2 : w \neq 0 \text{ and } v + dw \neq 0 \text{ for all } d \in \mathbb{Z}\} \subset \mathbb{C}^2$$

by setting  $Z(r, d) = rv + dw$ .



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$$\tau(v, w, t) = H(v, w, t) \cdot \exp(R(v, w, t)),$$

$$H(v, w, t) = \exp \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}+i\epsilon} \frac{e^{vs} - 1}{e^{ws} - 1} \cdot \frac{e^{ts}}{(e^{ts} - 1)^2} \cdot \frac{ds}{s} \right),$$

$$R(v, w, t) = \left( \frac{w}{2\pi it} \right)^2 (\text{Li}_3(e^{2\pi iv/w}) - \zeta(3)) + \frac{i\pi}{12} \cdot \frac{v}{w}.$$

The function  $H$  is a non-perturbative closed-string partition function.

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Matrix differential equation for  $X: \mathbb{C}^* \rightarrow G = \mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{C})$

$$\frac{d}{dt} X(t) = \left( \frac{U}{t^2} + \frac{V}{t} \right) X(t), \quad U, V \in \mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{gl}_n(\mathbb{C}).$$

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Iso-Stokes deformation: as  $U$  varies we can vary  $V$  in a unique way so that the product of Stokes factors in any fixed sector is constant.

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Differential equation for  $X: \mathbb{C}^* \rightarrow G = \text{Aut}(\mathbb{T})$

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Note that given  $\xi \in \mathbb{T}$  there is a map  $\text{eval}_{\xi}: G \rightarrow \mathbb{T}$ .

## FURTHER DIRECTIONS

- (I) Theories of class S with  $G = \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{C})$ . Variation of BPS structures over space of meromorphic quadratic differentials. Monodromy of projective structures gives map to space of framed local systems. Fock-Goncharov co-ordinates give solutions to RH problem (joint with D. Allegretti).

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- (III) Our current formalism gives the partition function without the terms in  $t^{2g-2}$  for  $g = 0, 1$ . In examples, these additional terms make  $\tau$  satisfy a difference equation. How to understand this? Can we quantize the RH problem? (J. Calabrese).