

Weyl symmetry for curve counting invariants via spherical twists

Miguel Moreira
ETHZ
Joint with Tim Buelles

YMSC – Tsinghua University
Enumerative Geometry seminar
26 May 2022

Gromov-Witten invariants

Given a smooth projective variety X , Gromov-Witten theory uses the moduli of stable maps and its virtual fundamental class

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A special case is when X is a Calabi-Yau 3-fold (CY3): the virtual dimension of is 0 for all $g \geq 0$, $\beta \in H_2(X; \mathbb{Z})$ so we get numbers

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Goal:

Compute all numbers $\text{GW}_{g, \beta}^X$. Equivalently, understand the partition function

$$Z_X = \exp \left(\sum_{g, \beta} \text{GW}_{g, \beta}^X u^{2g-2} z^\beta \right).$$

Stable pairs

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Definition (Pandharipande-Thomas '09)

A stable pair on X is an object $\{\mathcal{O}_X \xrightarrow{s} F\} \in D^b(X)$ in the derived category where F is a coherent sheaf and s a section satisfying the following two stability conditions:

- 1 F is pure of dimension 1: every non-trivial coherent sub-sheaf of F has dimension 1.
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We associate two discrete invariants:

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The space $P_n(X, \beta)$ parametrizing stable pairs with fixed discrete invariants is a projective fine moduli space.

Pandharipande-Thomas invariants

The moduli of stable pairs $P_n(X, \beta)$ also has a virtual fundamental class, and when X is a CY3 its virtual dimension is 0, producing again numbers

$$\mathrm{PT}_{n,\beta}^X = \int_{[P_n(X,\beta)]^{\mathrm{vir}}} 1 \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

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Conjecture (Maulik-Nekrasov-Okounkov-Pandharipande '06)

The Gromov-Witten and Pandharipande-Thomas invariants determine each other:

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$$\exp \left(\sum_{g,\beta} \mathrm{GW}_{g,\beta}^X u^{2g-2} z^\beta \right) = \sum_{n,\beta} \mathrm{PT}_{n,\beta}^X (-q)^n z^\beta$$

after the change of variables $q = e^{iu}$.

Rationality and symmetry

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For each β the generating function

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is the expansion of a rational function f_{β} satisfying the symmetry

$$f_{\beta}(1/q) = f_{\beta}(q).$$

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Typical example (contribution of isolated rational curve):

$$\begin{aligned} f(q) &= \frac{q}{(1-q)^2} = q + 2q^2 + 3q^3 + \dots \\ &= q^{-1} + 2q^{-2} + 3q^{-3} + \dots \end{aligned}$$

Proof of rationality

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Basic idea: use wall-crossing in the derived category to relate

$$P_n(X, \beta) \rightsquigarrow \phi(P_n(X, \beta)) \subseteq D^b(X).$$

Geometric setting

Let W be a ruled surface over a genus g curve C , i.e.

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Let X be a Calabi-Yau 3-fold containing W as a divisor. Let $B = [\mathbb{P}^1] \in H_2(X)$ be the curve class of the fibers of the ruling.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} B & \hookrightarrow & W & \xhookrightarrow{\iota} & X \\ & & \downarrow p & & \\ & & C & & \end{array}$$

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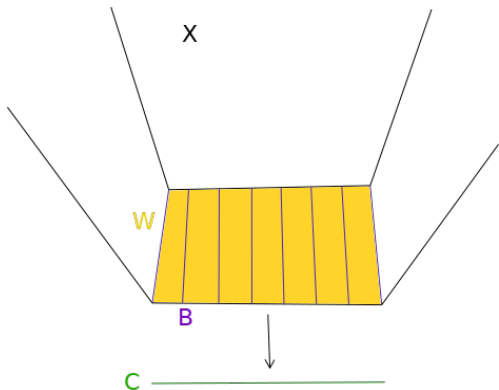
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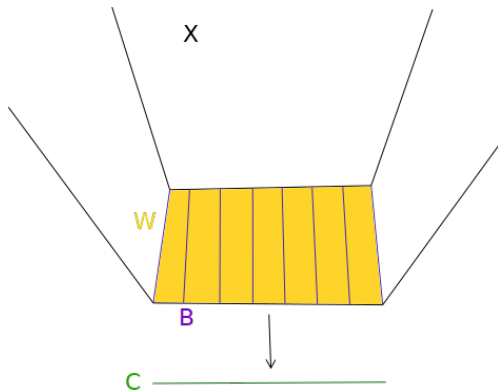
$$\begin{array}{ccccc} B & \hookrightarrow & W & \xhookrightarrow{\iota} & X \\ & & \downarrow p & & \\ & & C & & \end{array}$$

We also assume that the ray generated by B is extremal in the effective cone of X , i.e. if C_1, C_2 are effective curve classes such that $C_1 + C_2$ is a multiple of B then both C_1, C_2 are multiples of B .

Geometric setting



Geometric setting



Examples

- $X = K_W$
- X elliptic fibration over W
- $X = \text{STU model}$, which is a particular elliptic fibration over $\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1$.

Weyl symmetry

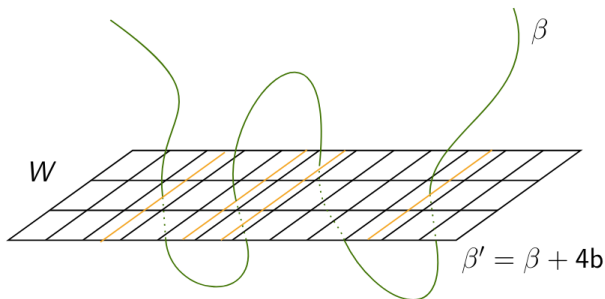
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(it's an involution because $W \cdot B = -2$)

Weyl symmetry for PT invariants

Our work is about some symmetry relating curve counting invariants in classes β and β'

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Let

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Let

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The generating series PT_0 of multiples of B can be shown to equal

$$\mathrm{PT}_0(q, Q) = \prod_{j \geq 1} (1 - q^j Q)^{(2g-2)j}.$$

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Let X be a Calabi-Yau 3-fold containing a smooth, ruled divisor W as described before.

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Let X be a Calabi-Yau 3-fold containing a smooth, ruled divisor W as described before. Then

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is the expansion of a rational function $f_\beta(q, Q)$

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is the expansion of a rational function $f_\beta(q, Q)$ which satisfies the functional equations

$$f_\beta(q^{-1}, Q) = f_\beta(q, Q) \text{ and } f_\beta(q, Q^{-1}) = Q^{-W \cdot \beta} f_\beta(q, Q).$$

Weyl symmetry for GW invariants

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For all $(g, \beta) \neq (0, mB), (1, mB)$ the series

$$\sum_{j \in \mathbb{Z}} \text{GW}_{g, \beta + jB} Q^j$$

is the expansion of a rational function $f_\beta(Q)$ with functional equation

$$f_\beta(Q^{-1}) = Q^{-W \cdot \beta} f_\beta(Q).$$

Think of the functional equation as equality

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Predicted by physics, at least in the local case K_W (Katz-Klemm-Vafa '97).

Examples

Example

Let $X = K_{\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1}$ and let C be the other \mathbb{P}^1 in the product. A computation with the topological vertex shows:

$$\frac{\text{PT}_C(q, Q)}{\text{PT}_0(q, Q)} = \frac{2q}{(1-q)^2(1-Q)^2}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\text{PT}_C(q, Q)}{\text{PT}_0(q, Q)} &= \frac{2q}{(1-q)^2(1-Q)^2} \\ \frac{\text{PT}_{2C}(q, Q)}{\text{PT}_0(q, Q)} &= \frac{2q^4}{(1-q)^2(1-q^2)^2(1-qQ)^2(1-Q)^2} \\ &+ \frac{2q^4}{(1-q)^2(1-q^2)^2(q-Q)^2(1-Q)^2} \\ &+ \frac{2q^4}{(1-q)^4(1-qQ)^2(q-Q)^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Spherical twists

The main ingredient of our symmetry is the existence of a certain anti-equivalence $\rho \in \text{Aut}(D^b(X))$ promoting the involution

$$\beta \mapsto \beta' = \beta + (W \cdot \beta)B$$

on $H_2(X)$ to the derived category.

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From a spherical functor we associate an automorphism of the derived category, the spherical twist ST defined by

$$\Phi \circ \Phi_R \longrightarrow \text{id} \longrightarrow \text{ST}.$$

Derived equivalence ρ

We already have the derived equivalence $ST \in \text{Aut}(D^b(X))$. The derived equivalence ρ is then

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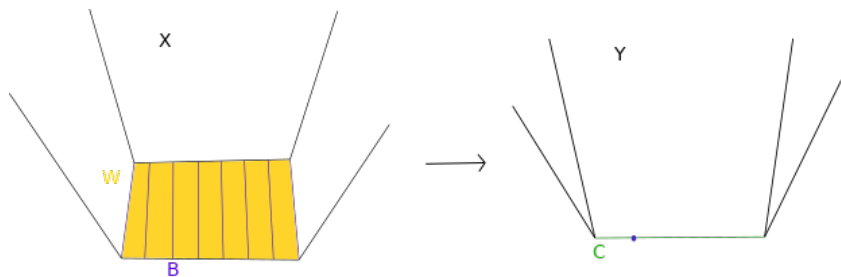
Facts

- 1 ρ is an involution, i.e. $\rho \circ \rho = \text{id}$.
- 2 $\rho(\mathcal{O}_X) = \mathcal{O}_X[2]$.
- 3 If F is a sheaf of dimension 1 and $\text{ch}_2(F) = \beta, \chi(F) = n$ then

$$\begin{aligned}\text{ch}_2(\rho(F)) &= \beta' = \beta + (W \cdot \beta)B \\ \chi(\rho(F)) &= -n.\end{aligned}$$

Orbifold inspiration

When X arises as a crepant resolution $X \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$ of an orbifold with $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -singularities along the curve C so that W is the exceptional divisor (and the fibers B are contracted to points), the main result is a consequence of the DT crepant resolution conjecture proven by Beentjes-Calabrese-Rennemo ('18).



Orbifold inspiration

Their proof immitates Bridgeland-Toda proof of rationality using $\mathbb{D}^{\mathcal{Y}}$ to prove the symmetry of PT invariants in \mathcal{Y} .

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Proposition

Under the McKay correspondence

$$\Psi : D^b(X) \xrightarrow{\sim} D^b(\mathcal{Y})$$

the derived dual $\mathbb{D}^{\mathcal{Y}}$ corresponds to ρ , i.e.

$$\rho = \Psi^{-1} \circ \mathbb{D}^{\mathcal{Y}} \circ \Psi.$$

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Important examples (e.g. the STU) don't arise as such crepant resolution.

Homological mirror symmetry?

What can we say about the mirror geometry \check{X} ? In particular, how to interpret the derived equivalence ST under HMS:

$$ST \in \text{Aut}(D^b(X)) \cong \text{Aut}(\text{Fuk}(\check{X}))?$$

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When the genus of C is $g = 0$ we can write ST as a composition of twists around spherical objects

$$ST = ST_{\mathcal{O}_W(-C+B)} \circ ST_{\mathcal{O}_W(-C)}$$

so (the mirror of) ST should be induced by a symplectomorphism obtained as a composition of two Dehn twists.

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In such a situation, the derived equivalence corresponding to ST on the symplectic side would be induced by monodromy of $w: Z \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ around ∞ .

Perverse stable pairs

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to describe the image of $\mathbb{D}(P_n(X, \beta))$ and to help finding wall-crossing between $\mathbb{D}(P_n(X, \beta))$ and $P_n(X, \beta)$.

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Example

If $x \in W$ is a point in the divisor lying in a fiber B then

$$\rho(\mathcal{O}_x) = \{\mathcal{O}_B(-1)[-1] \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_B(-2)\}.$$

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- 2 $\mathcal{O}_B(-1), \mathcal{O}_B(-2)[1] \in \mathcal{A}_0$;
- 3 $\mathcal{O}_\rho(-1), \mathcal{O}_\rho(-2)[1] \in \mathcal{A}_1$.

Perverse stable pairs

The action of ρ on \mathcal{A} (with perverse dimension) is analogous to the action of \mathbb{D} on $\text{Coh}(X)$ (with usual dimension):

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A perverse stable pair is an object $I \in \langle \mathcal{O}_X[1], \mathcal{A}_{\leq 1} \rangle_{\text{ex}}$ such that $\text{rk}(I) = -1$ and

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We define the virtual counts of perverse stable pairs:

$${}^p\text{PT}_{n,\beta} \in \mathbb{Z},$$

$${}^p\text{PT}_{\beta}(q, Q) = \sum_{n,j \in \mathbb{Z}} {}^p\text{PT}_{n,\beta+jB}(-q)^n Q^j.$$

Rationality for ${}^p\text{PT}$

Theorem (Buelles-M)

The series ${}^p\text{PT}_\beta(q, Q)$ is the expansion of a rational function $f_\beta \in \mathbb{Q}(q, Q)$ satisfying the symmetry

$$f_\beta(q^{-1}, Q^{-1}) = Q^{-W \cdot \beta} f_\beta(q, Q).$$

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- Torsion pair $\langle \text{Coh}_0, \text{Coh}_1 \rangle$
- Usual slope stability
- Vanishing of Poisson brackets $\{\text{Coh}_{\leq 1}, \text{Coh}_{\leq 1}\} = 0$
- Rationality of ${}^p\text{PT}_\beta(q, Q)$
- Anti-equivalence ρ
- Torsion pair $\langle \mathcal{A}_0, \mathcal{A}_1 \rangle$
- Nironi slope stability
- No vanishing, extra combinatorial difficulty (dealt with in [BCR]).

Wall-crossing

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The wall-crossing establishing the equality has two steps and uses the counting of a third type of objects: Bryan-Steinberg invariants.

Wall-crossing PT/BS

When X arises as a crepant resolution $X \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$, Bryan-Steinberg introduced ('12) invariants $BS_{n,\beta}$. Roughly speaking, they count sheafs+sections $\{\mathcal{O}_X \xrightarrow{s} F\}$ but allowing the cokernel to have support on finitely many fibers B .

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Unlike pPT , BS are defined using the heart $\text{Coh}(X)$, no need to tilt.

Wall-crossing ρ PT/BS

Final step is comparing ρ PT and BS.

Wall-crossing ${}^{\rho}\text{PT}/\text{BS}$

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Proposition

We have the following identity of rational functions:

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Wall-crossing ${}^p\text{PT}/\text{BS}$

Final step is comparing ${}^p\text{PT}$ and BS.

Proposition

We have the following identity of rational functions:

$$\text{BS}_\beta(q, Q) = {}^p\text{PT}_\beta(q, Q).$$

The identity above is strictly of rational functions, the coefficients are not the same on the nose. When we cross a wall in the path of stability conditions we change the direction in which we expand the same rational function.

Crossing a wall – re-expansion

Example

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$$\frac{1}{q-Q} = -\frac{Q^{-1}}{1-Q^{-1}q} = -\sum_{i \geq 0} Q^{-1-i} q^i.$$

Thank you!

