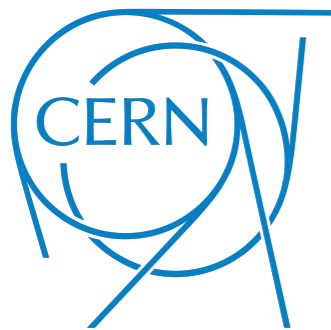


Kyiv Formula and String Dualities

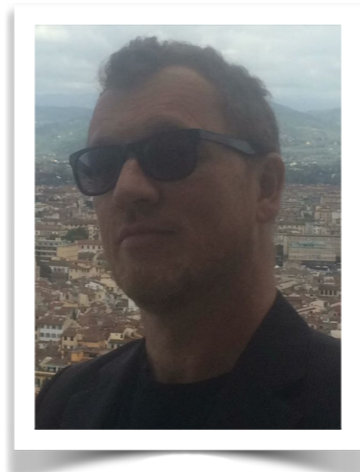
Alba Grassi



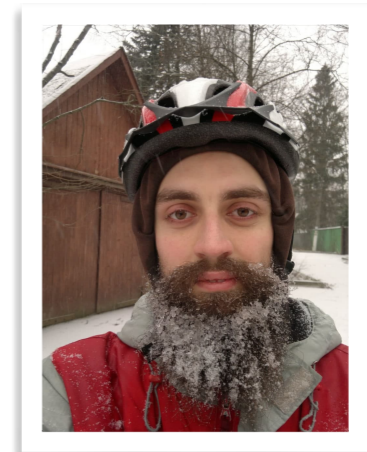
Mostly based on work (**done** and in **progress**) in collaboration with



M. Bershtein



G. Bonelli



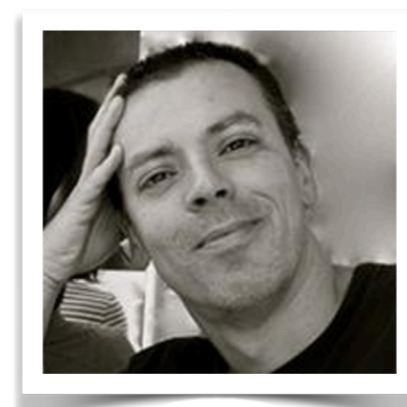
P. Gavrylenko



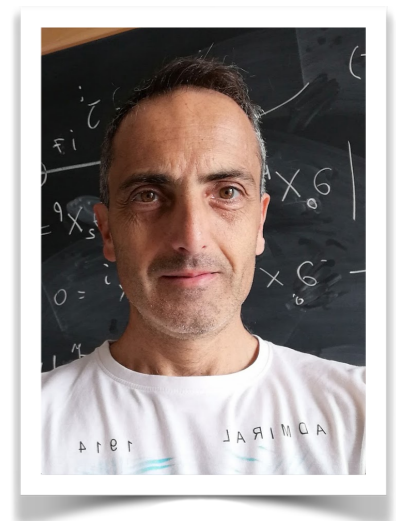
Q. Hao



Y. Hatsuda



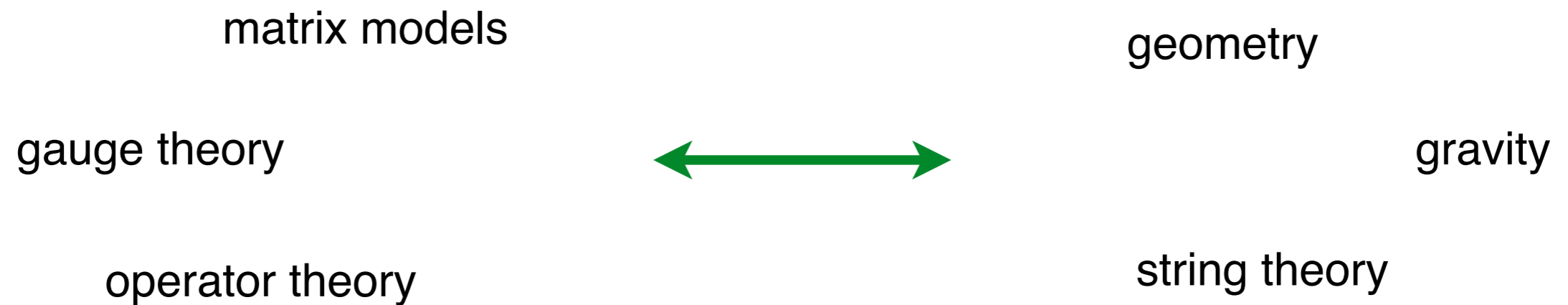
M. Mariño



A. Tanzini

Introduction and Motivation

During the last decades string theory has provided several new results and applications in various fields. These results are often a consequence of dualities:



Introduction and Motivation

Example 1: Mirror symmetry [Candelas et al]

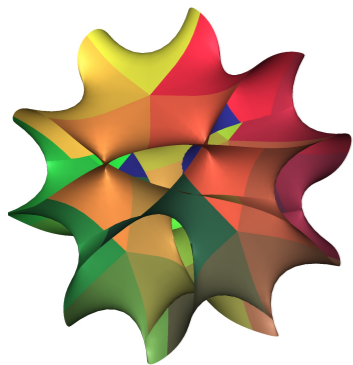
manifold X \longleftrightarrow manifold \widetilde{X}

Underlying intuition: string propagation in both spaces is identical.

➔ Application: **difficult** computations on one manifold can be **mapped** into **simpler** problems on its mirror partner.

Introduction and Motivation

Another interesting aspect:



geometrical
objects



algebraic
objects

$$\int dM e^{-N \text{Tr}(V(M))}$$

Example 2: [Witten, Kontsevich]

Intersection theory
on moduli space of
Riemann surfaces



Matrix models

➔ Geometry as emergent phenomena: guideline to study quantum modifications to classical geometrical structures

Introduction and Motivation

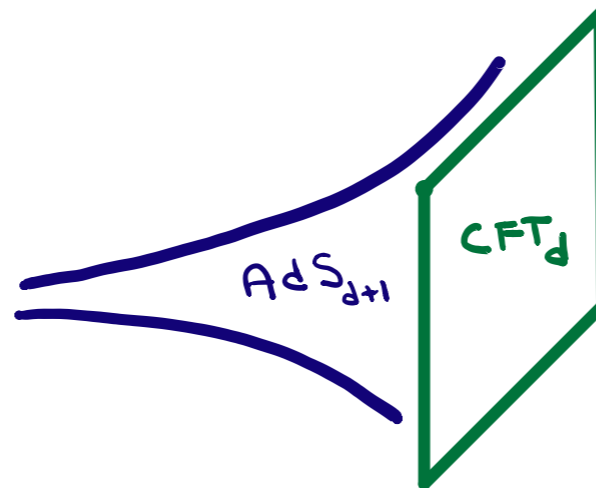
Example 3: String/Gauge dualities [’t Hooft].

A well known example is the AdS/CFT correspondence [Maldacena]

String Theory on
AdS background



Conformal Field Theory
on lower dimensional
background



➔ (dual) non-perturbative definition of string theory

Today's Talk: Kyiv Formula and String Dualities

String Model: Topological String Theory on Toric CY_3

Duality: Topological String / Spectral Theory of Quantum Curves

We will see:

- (1) Kyiv formula can be used to prove some aspects of this duality
- (2) The interplays between these topics lead to new (conjectural but well tested) results in the context of q-difference Painlevé equations

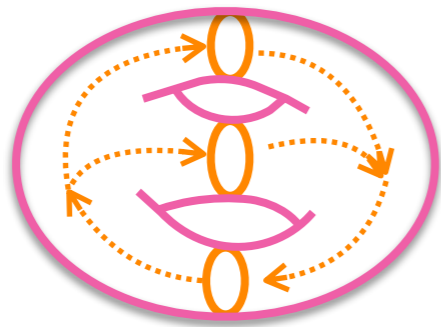
Topological String Theory

In string theory point particles are replaced by **strings**. Formally this is modelled by considering maps from **Riemann surfaces** into a target manifold X .



Periodic trajectories
generate genus g
Riemann surfaces

$g = 2$



$$\sim g_s^2 F_2$$

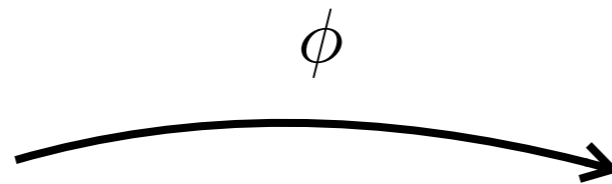
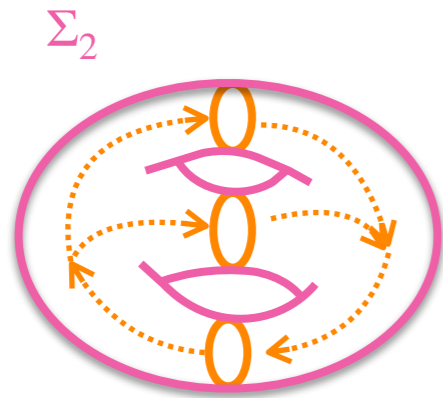


string coupling
constant

The details of this process
are encoded in the **genus g**
free energies F_g

This is modelled by considering holomorphic maps from **Riemann surfaces** into a target manifold X .

$$\phi : \Sigma_g \rightarrow X$$



X : target manifold

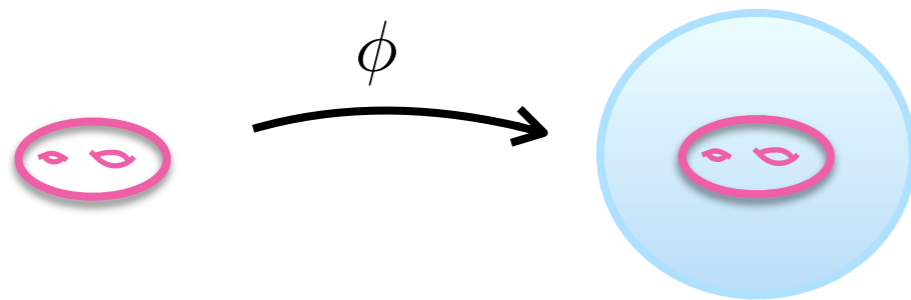


Here X is a 3 dimensional complex manifold (Calabi-Yau manifold)

Topological string theory: the free energies encode the enumerative geometry of the target manifold X

$$F_g(t) = \sum_{d \geq 1} N_g^d e^{-dt}$$

N_g^d are the Gromov-Witten (GW) invariants: “count” holomorphic maps $\phi : \Sigma_g \rightarrow X$



t : Kähler parameter of X

For the geometries X that we will be considering, these have been computed explicitly.

[Aganagic-Klemm-Mariño-Vafa, Bershadsky-Cecotti-Ooguri-Vafa, Bouchard-Klemm-Mariño-Pasquetti, Kontsevich, Pandharipande-Thomas, ...]

The (formal) **partition function Z** is obtained by summing over all genera

$$F = \log Z = \sum_{g \geq 0} g_s^{2g-2} F_g(t) \quad (1)$$



Problem: $F_g \sim (2g - 2)!$ $g \gg 1$ \rightarrow zero radius of convergence
[Gross- Periwal, Shenker]

\rightarrow We are missing some interesting (non-perturbative) phenomena

Question: is there a well-defined function $F = \log Z$ such that (1) is its series expansion?

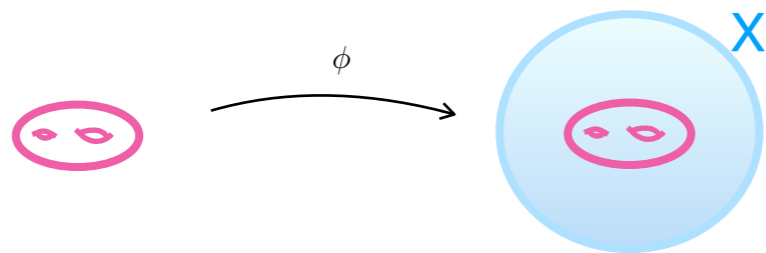
Our answer : $Z =$ spectral traces of suitably constructed quantum mechanical operators on the real line

AG, Hatsuda, Mariño

This gives a new and exact relation between the spectral theory of certain quantum mechanical operators and enumerative geometry/topological string

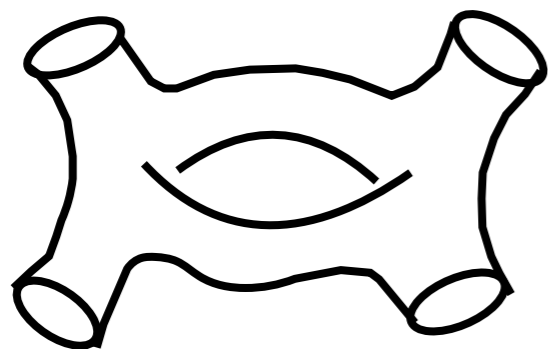
→ Topological String / Spectral Theory duality

Example:



Consider the **target geometry X** to be the canonical bundle over $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}_1 \times \mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}_1$ also known as **local $\mathbb{P}_1 \times \mathbb{P}_1$**

Using the **mirror symmetry** we can relate such geometry to [Batyrev, Hori-Vafa, Katz-Klemm-Vafa, Dijkgraaf et al, . . .].



$$me^x + e^p + e^{-p} + e^{-x} + \kappa = 0$$

(mirror curve to
local $\mathbb{P}_1 \times \mathbb{P}_1$)



This is the classical version of the operator

$$\mathcal{O}(\hat{x}, \hat{p}) = me^{\hat{x}} + e^{-\hat{x}} + e^{\hat{p}} + e^{-\hat{p}} \quad [\hat{x}, \hat{p}] = i\hbar$$

Terminology: \mathcal{O} is the **quantum mirror curve** to local $\mathbb{P}_1 \times \mathbb{P}_1$

Theorem: The operator $\rho = \mathcal{O}^{-1}$ has a discrete spectrum $\{E_n^{-1}\}_{n \geq 0}$ and it is of trace class on $L^2(\mathbb{R})$

[AG-Hatsuda-Mariño
Kashaev-Mariño
Laptev-Schwimmer-Takhtajan]

$$\text{Tr} \rho^N = \sum_{n \geq 0} E_n^{-N} < \infty$$

The **kernel** of the operator ρ is $\rho(x, y) = \frac{e^{-u(x, m, \hbar) - u(y, m, \hbar)}}{4\pi \cosh\left(\frac{x-y}{2}\right)}$

where $u(x, m, \hbar)$ is determined by the Faddeev quantum dilogarithm ϕ_b

[Kashaev-Mariño-Zakany]

$$u(x, m, \hbar) = \pi x b / 2 + \log \left| \frac{\phi_b\left(x - \frac{1}{4\pi b} \log m + ib/4\right)}{\phi_b\left(x + \frac{1}{4\pi b} \log m - ib/4\right)} \right| + \frac{1}{8} \log m \quad \hbar = \pi b^2$$

Some definitions:

Fredholm determinant:
$$\det (1 + \kappa\rho) = \prod_{n \geq 0} \left(1 + \frac{\kappa}{E_n} \right)$$

Fermionic spectral traces:
$$Z(N, \hbar) = \frac{1}{N!} \sum_{\sigma \in S_N} (-1)^{\text{sgn}(\sigma)} \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} dx_1 \cdots dx_N \prod_{i=1}^N \rho(x_i, x_{\sigma(i)})$$

S_N : permutation of N elements

Example: $Z(1, \hbar) = \text{Tr} \rho$ or $Z(2, \hbar) = \frac{1}{2} ((\text{Tr} \rho)^2 - \text{Tr} \rho^2)$

We have:
$$\det (1 + \kappa\rho) = \sum_{N \geq 0} Z(N, \hbar) \kappa^N$$

$X =$ canonical bundle
over $\mathbb{CP}_1 \times \mathbb{CP}_1$

quantization
of mirror curve \rightarrow

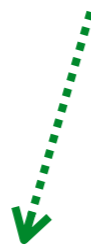
quantum mechanical operator ρ

$$Z(N, \hbar) = \frac{1}{N!} \sum_{\sigma \in S_N} (-1)^{\text{sgn}(\sigma)} \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} dx_1 \cdots dx_N \prod_{i=1}^N \rho(x_i, x_{\sigma(i)})$$

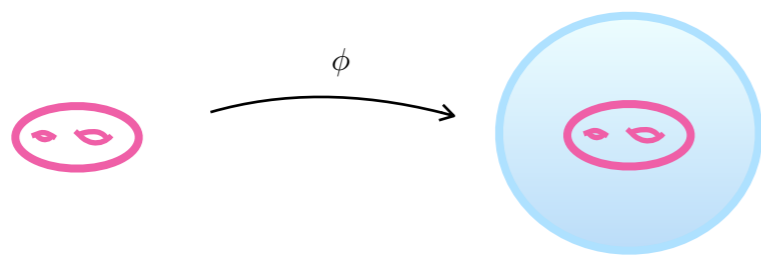
Claim: [AG-Hatsuda-Mariño]

$$\log Z(N, \hbar) = \sum_{g \geq 0} \hbar^{2-2g} F_g(t) + \mathcal{O}(e^{-\hbar})$$

when $\hbar, N \rightarrow \infty$ with $t = \frac{N}{\hbar}$ fixed

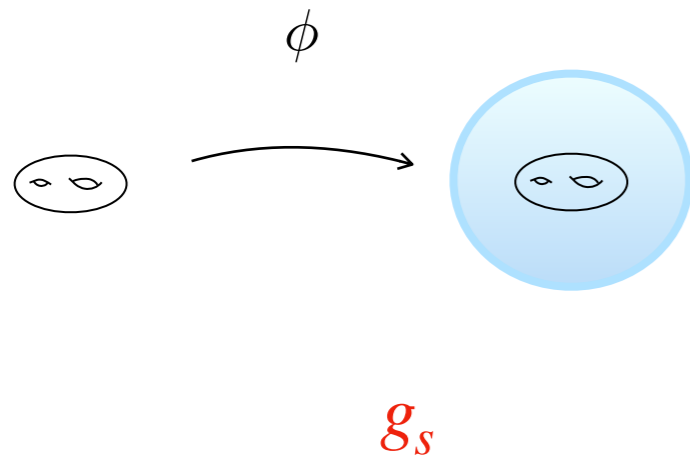


Enumerative geometry / Topological string
amplitudes on the target geometry $X =$
canonical bundle over $\mathbb{CP}_1 \times \mathbb{CP}_1$



Note: $\hbar = g_s^{-1}$

Topological string/
Enumerative geometry



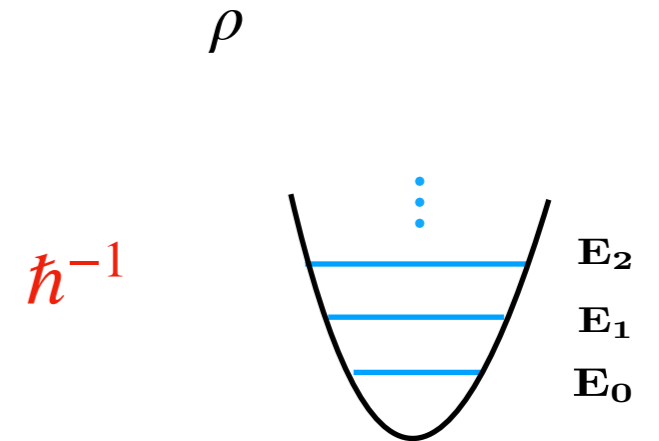
string perturbation theory
 $\equiv g_s$ small

non-pert effects
 $\equiv g_s$ large



[AG-Hatsuda-Mariño]
[AG-Codecido-Mariño]

Spectral theory of a class of
quantum mechanical operators
called quantum mirror curves



non-pert effects in quantum
mechanics $\equiv \hbar$ large

WKB method in quantum
mechanics $\equiv \hbar$ small

→ Exact analytic solution for spectral theory of
difference equations (relativistic integrable systems)

To make contact with **Painlevé equations and Kyiv construction** it is useful to formulate our duality at the level of the **Fredholm determinant**.

Claim: [AG-Hatsuda-Mariño]

We can compute the Fredholm determinant of ρ using topological string/enumerative geometry

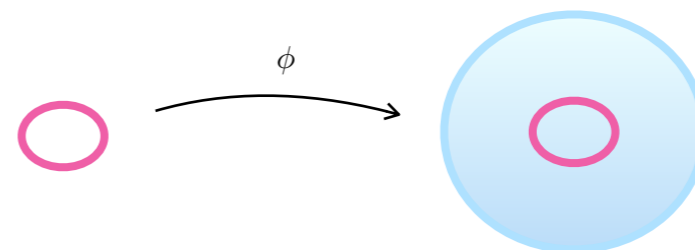
Example: consider $\rho(x, y) = \frac{e^{-u(x, m, \hbar) - u(y, m, \hbar)}}{4\pi \cosh\left(\frac{x-y}{2}\right)}$ and set $\hbar = 2\pi$, $m = 1$. Then we have

$$\det(1 + \kappa\rho) \sim \theta_3\left(\xi - \frac{1}{12}, \tau\right)$$

where $\xi = \frac{1}{2\pi^2} (t\partial_t^2 F_0 - \partial_t F_0)$ and $\tau = \frac{2i}{\pi} \partial_t^2 F_0$ with $t = t(\kappa) = (\text{quantum})$ mirror map

F_0 : genus zero GW

invariants on local $\mathbb{P}_1 \times \mathbb{P}_1$



More generically the expression has the following form

$$\det (1 + \kappa \rho) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \exp [J(\mu + 2\pi i n, \hbar, m)], \quad \kappa = e^\mu$$

J : topological string grand potential

This is a particular combination of topological string free energy **and** “refined” topological string free energy in the Nekrasov-Shatashvili limit

Next: it exists a particular limit where our duality makes contact with well known statements in theory of **Painlevé equations** → proof in this particular limit.

[Bonelli-AG-Tanzini]

Painlevé equations

$$\text{VI: } \frac{d^2q}{dt^2} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{q} + \frac{1}{q-1} + \frac{1}{q-t} \right) \left(\frac{dq}{dt} \right)^2 - \left(\frac{1}{t} + \frac{1}{t-1} + \frac{1}{q-t} \right) \frac{dq}{dt} + \frac{2q(q-1)(q-t)}{t^2(t-1)^2} \left(\alpha + \frac{\beta t}{q^2} + \frac{\gamma(t-1)}{(q-1)^2} + \frac{\delta t(t-1)}{(q-t)^2} \right)$$

$$\text{V: } \frac{d^2q}{dt^2} = \left(\frac{1}{2q} + \frac{1}{q-1} \right) \left(\frac{dq}{dt} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{t} \frac{dq}{dt} + \frac{(q-1)^2}{t^2} \left(\alpha q + \frac{\beta}{q} \right) + \frac{\gamma q}{t} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{q(q+1)}{q-1}$$

$$\text{IV: } \frac{d^2q}{dt^2} = \frac{1}{2q} \left(\frac{dq}{dt} \right)^2 + \frac{3}{2} q^3 + 4tq^2 + 2(t^2 - \alpha)q + \frac{\beta}{q}$$

$$\text{III}_1: \frac{d^2q}{dt^2} = \frac{1}{q} \left(\frac{dq}{dt} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{t} \frac{dq}{dt} + \frac{q^2(\alpha + 4q)}{4t^2} + \frac{\beta}{4t} - \frac{1}{q}$$

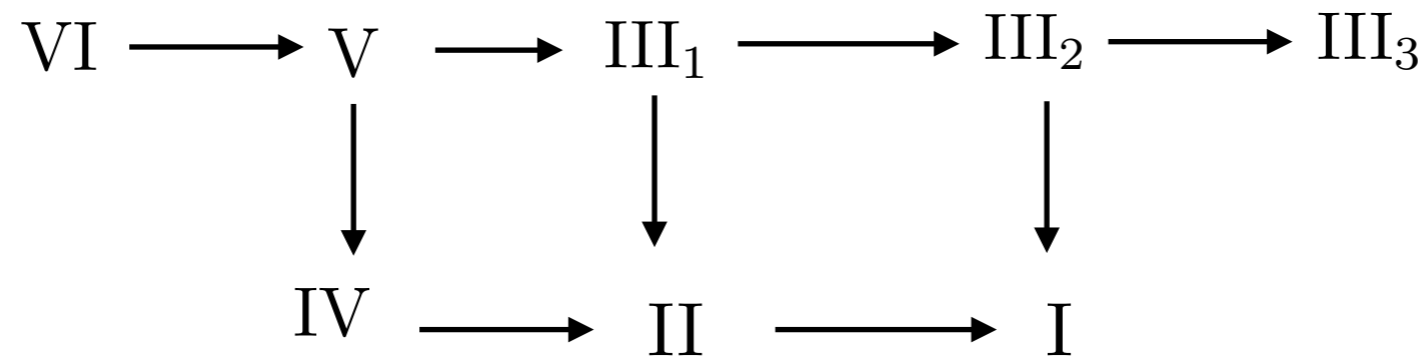
$$\text{III}_2: \frac{d^2q}{dt^2} = \frac{1}{q} \left(\frac{dq}{dt} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{t} \frac{dq}{dt} + \frac{2q^2}{t^2} + \frac{\alpha}{4t} - \frac{1}{q}$$

$$\text{III}_3: \frac{d^2q}{dt^2} = \frac{1}{q} \left(\frac{dq}{dt} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{t} \frac{dq}{dt} + \frac{2q^2}{t^2} - \frac{2}{t}$$

$$\text{II: } \frac{d^2q}{dt^2} = 2q^3 + tq + \alpha$$

$$\text{I: } \frac{d^2q}{dt^2} = 6q^2 + t$$

Painlevé equations can be organised into a confluence diagram



Example:

$$\text{III}_2 : \frac{d^2q}{dt^2} = \frac{1}{q} \left(\frac{dq}{dt} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{t} \frac{dq}{dt} + \frac{2q^2}{t^2} + \frac{\alpha}{4t} - \frac{1}{q}$$

$$\text{III}_3 : \frac{d^2q}{ds^2} = \frac{1}{q} \left(\frac{dq}{ds} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{s} \frac{dq}{ds} + \frac{2q^2}{s^2} - \frac{2}{s}$$



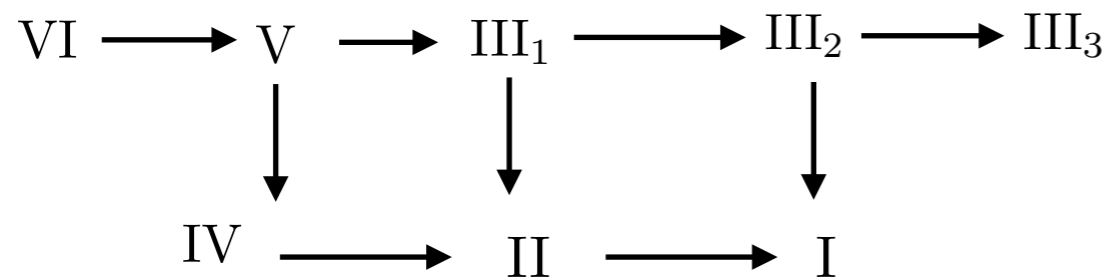
$$t = s\epsilon$$

$$\alpha = -4/\epsilon$$

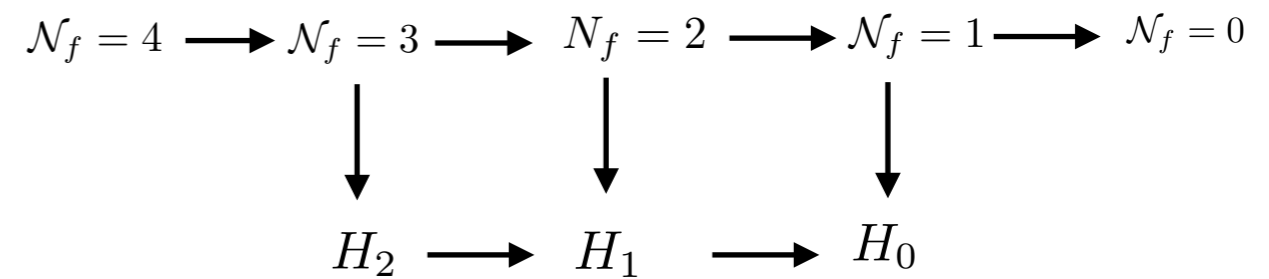
$$\epsilon \rightarrow 0$$

Recently there has been an important progress in constructing generic solutions to such equations in an explicit form by using the **Nekrasov partition function of a corresponding Seiberg-Witten theory** [Gamayun-Iorgov-Lisovyy]

Painlevé equations



four dimensional Seiberg-Witten theory



Painlevé free parameters

~

masses of hypermultiplets/mass deformations

time

~

gauge coupling e^{-1/g_{YM}^2}

See Y. Yamada's talk

Kyiv Formula: an example PIII_3

Theorem: [Gamayun, Iorgov, Lisovyy - Its, Lisovyy, Tykhyy- Iorgov, Lisovyy, Teschner- Bershtein, Shchepochkin - Gavrylenko, Lisovyy]

$$q(t, \sigma, \eta) = \sqrt{t} e^{-2\pi i \eta} \left(\frac{\tau^{\text{GIL}}(t, \sigma, \eta)}{\tau^{\text{GIL}}(t, \sigma + \frac{1}{2}, \eta)} \right)^2$$

solves Painlevé III_3

$$\text{III}_3 : \quad \frac{d^2 q}{dt^2} = \frac{1}{q} \left(\frac{dq}{dt} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{t} \frac{dq}{dt} + \frac{2q^2}{t^2} - \frac{2}{t}$$

with initial conditions specified by σ and η .



Kyiv Formula: an example P_{III_3}

$$\tau^{\text{GIL}}(t, \sigma, \eta) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} e^{2\pi i n \eta} Z(\sigma + n, t)$$

where

$$Z(\sigma, t) = t^{\sigma^2} \frac{\mathcal{B}(\sigma, t)}{G(1 + 2\sigma)G(1 - 2\sigma)}$$

with $\mathcal{B}(\sigma, t) =$ Nekrasov instanton function for the pure 4 dim $SU(2)$ $\mathcal{N} = 2$ SYM theory (in the self-dual phase $\epsilon_1 = -\epsilon_2 = \epsilon$)— also called $N_f = 0$ theory

$$\mathcal{B}(\sigma, t) = 1 + \sum_{n \geq 1} c_n(\sigma) t^n = 1 + \frac{t}{2\sigma^2} + \frac{8\sigma^2 + 1}{4\sigma^2(4\sigma^2 - 1)} t^2 + \dots$$

gauge theory language: $\sigma = a/\epsilon$: vev of scalars in vector multiplet

$t = \Lambda^4/\epsilon^4$: instanton counting parameter

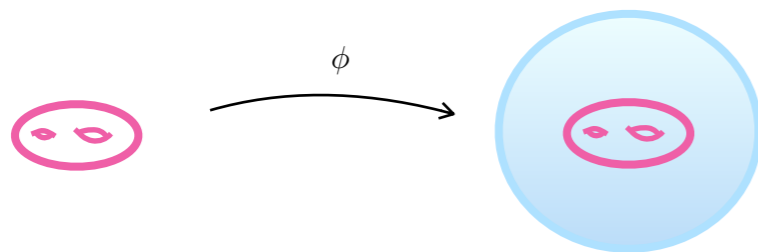
What does this have to do with topological string and spectral theory?

Reminder:

enumerative
geometry /
GW invariants



spectral theory of quantum
mechanical operators on
 $L^2(\mathbb{R})$



$$\rho(x, y) = \frac{e^{-u(x,b,m)-u(y,b,m)}}{4\pi \cosh\left(\frac{x-y}{2}\right)}$$

J : topological string grand
potential (GW invariants)

$$\sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \exp [J(\mu + 2\pi i n, b, m)] = \det (1 + \kappa \rho), \quad \kappa = e^\mu$$

On the spectral theory side:

$$\rho(x, y) = \frac{e^{-u(x,b,m)-u(y,b,m)}}{4\pi \cosh\left(\frac{x-y}{2}\right)}$$

$$u(x, b, m) = -\frac{xb^2}{4} - \log \left| \frac{\phi_b\left(\frac{bx}{2\pi} - \frac{1}{4\pi b} \log m + ib/4\right)}{\phi_b\left(\frac{bx}{2\pi} + \frac{1}{4\pi b} \log m - ib/4\right)} \right| + \frac{1}{8} \log m$$

$$\text{Set } \log m = \frac{i\sigma}{2\pi} + b^2 \log(b^2/t), \quad \log \kappa = \frac{b^2}{2} \log(b^2/t) + \log(1 + e^{\frac{i\sigma}{2\pi}}) \quad \hbar = \pi b^2$$

Take $b \rightarrow \infty$

$$\det(1 + \kappa\rho) \xrightarrow{b \rightarrow \infty} \det(1 + \cos(\sigma)\rho_{\text{III}})$$

On the spectral theory side:

$$\rho(x, y) = \frac{e^{-u(x,b,m)-u(y,b,m)}}{4\pi \cosh\left(\frac{x-y}{2}\right)}$$

$$u(x, b, m) = -\frac{xb^2}{4} - \log \left| \frac{\phi_b\left(\frac{bx}{2\pi} - \frac{1}{4\pi b} \log m + ib/4\right)}{\phi_b\left(\frac{bx}{2\pi} + \frac{1}{4\pi b} \log m - ib/4\right)} \right| + \frac{1}{8} \log m$$

We have: $\det(1 + \kappa\rho) \xrightarrow{b \rightarrow \infty} \det(1 + \cos(\sigma)\rho_{\text{III}})$

where $\rho_{\text{III}}(x, y) = \frac{e^{-t^{1/4} \cosh x - t^{1/4} \cosh y}}{4\pi \cosh\left(\frac{x-y}{2}\right)}$

It was proven by [McCoy et al, Widom, ...] that $\det(1 + \cos(\sigma)\rho_{\text{III}})$ solves Painlevé III_3 with a particular choice of initial conditions.

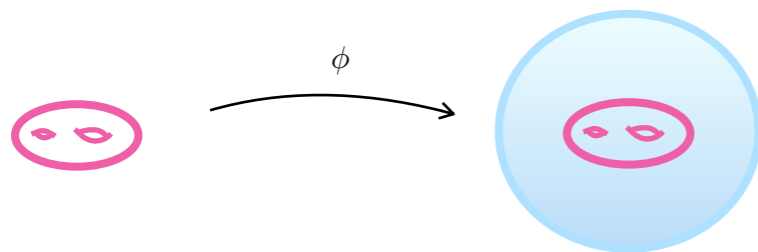
What does this have to do with topological string and spectral theory?

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spectral theory of quantum
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$$\rho(x, y) = \frac{e^{-u(x,b,m)-u(y,b,m)}}{4\pi \cosh\left(\frac{x-y}{2}\right)}$$

J : topological string grand
potential (GW invariants)

$$\sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \exp [J(\mu + 2\pi i n, b, m)] = \det (1 + \kappa \rho), \quad \kappa = e^\mu$$

On the enumerative geometry side:

$$\sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \exp [J(\mu + 2\pi i n, b, m)] \quad \rightarrow \quad \tau^{\text{GIL}}(t, \sigma, \eta = 0)$$

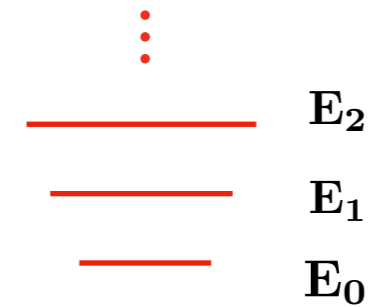
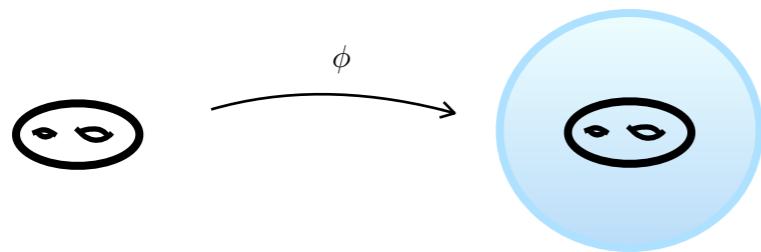
By using recent results of [Lisovyy et al, Its et al, Bershtein et al] it follows that τ solves Painlevé III₃ with same initial conditions.

topological string on target
 geometry $X =$ canonical
 bundle over $\mathbb{C}P_1 \times \mathbb{C}P_1$



spectral theory of

$$\rho(x, y) = \frac{e^{-u(x,m,b)-u(y,m,b)}}{4\pi \cosh\left(\frac{x-y}{2}\right)}$$

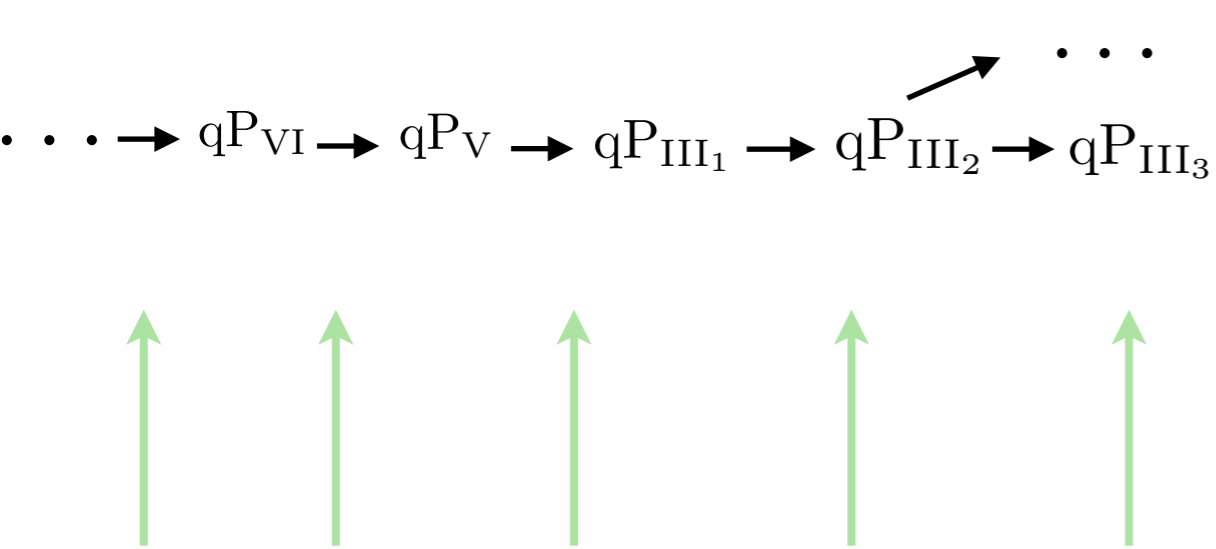


$$\sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} Z(\sigma + n, t) = \det(1 + \cos(\sigma)\rho_{\text{III}})$$

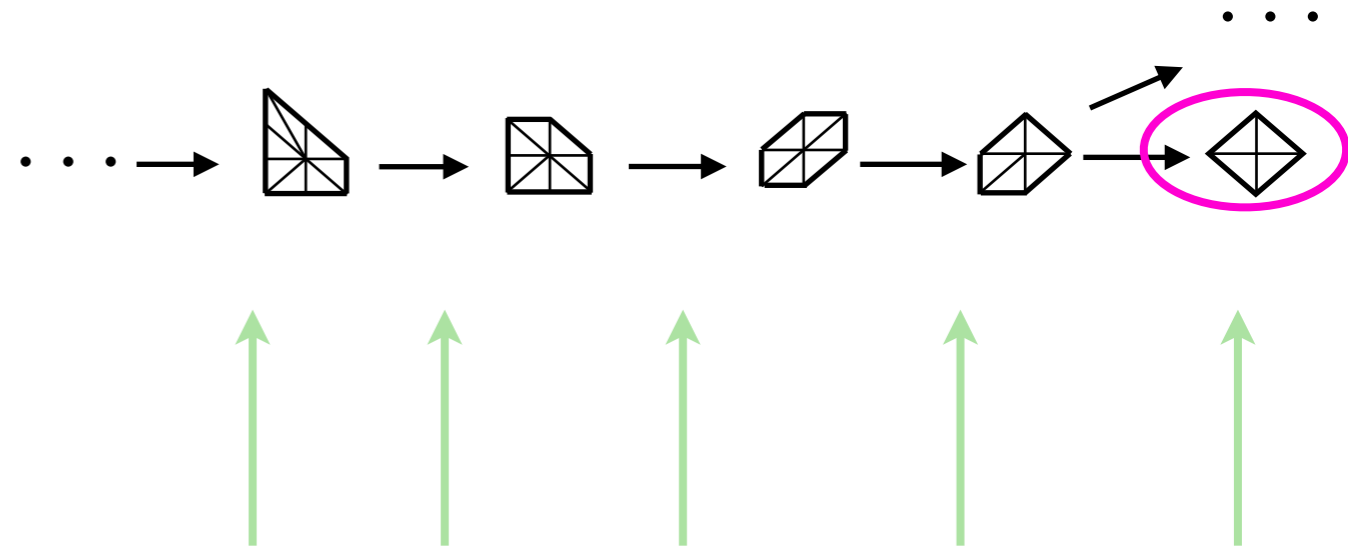
Painlevé III_3 equation

This is a **small piece** of a bigger picture....

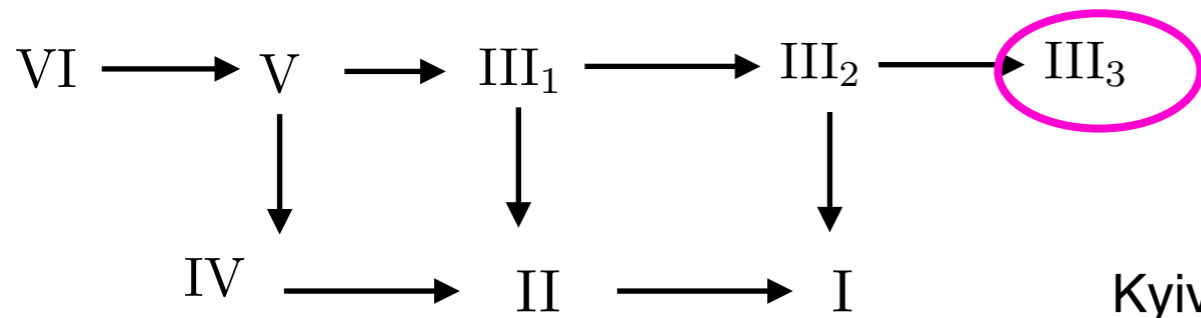
q- difference Painlevé equations



Topological string on toric geometries

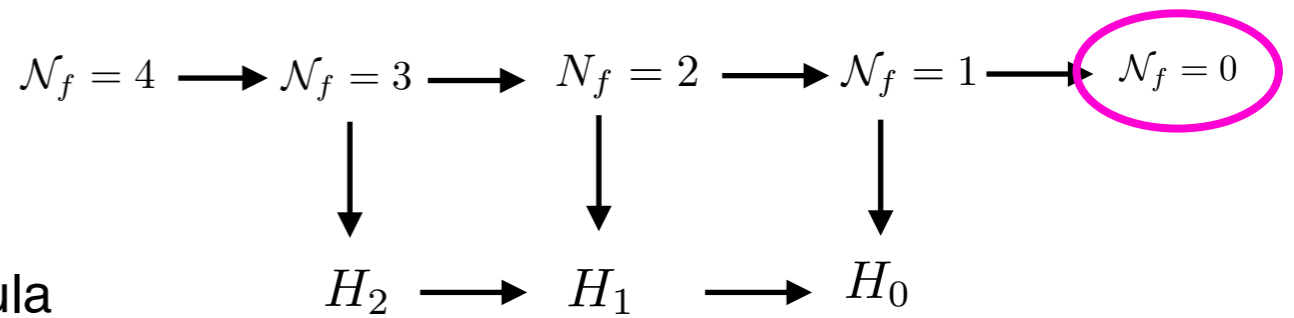


Painlevé equations



Kyiv formula

4d SU(2) Seiberg-Witten-Nekrasov theory



Today's talk

Today's Plan

String Model: Topological String Theory on Toric CY_3 fold

Duality: Topological String / Spectral Theory Duality

We will see:

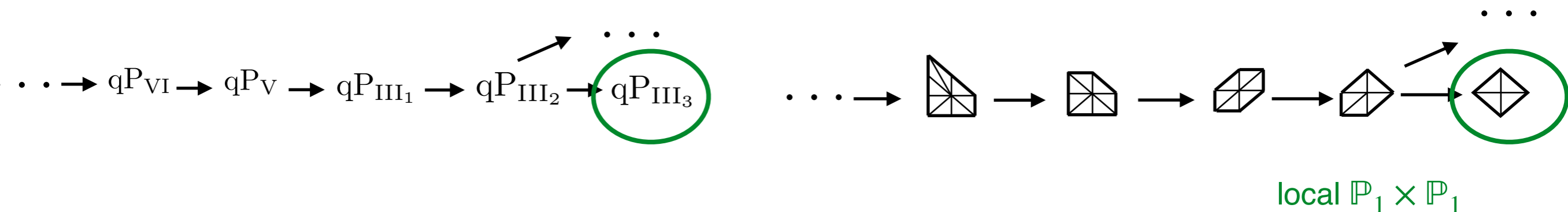
- (1) Kyiv formula can be used to prove some aspects of this duality
- (2) This interplays lead to new (conjectural but well tested) results in the context of q-difference Painlevé equations



Claim: Fredholm determinant of quantum mirror curves to such geometries solves a corresponding q-Painlevé equation

[Bonelli, AG, Tanzini]

Example:



In the example of local $\mathbb{P}_1 \times \mathbb{P}_1$ the relevant operator ρ is

$$\rho(x, y) = \frac{e^{-u(x, m, \hbar) - u(y, m, \hbar)}}{4\pi \cosh\left(\frac{x-y}{2}\right)}$$

$$u(x, b, m) = -\frac{xb^2}{4} - \log \left| \frac{\phi_b\left(\frac{bx}{2\pi} - \frac{1}{4\pi b} \log m + ib/4\right)}{\phi_b\left(\frac{bx}{2\pi} + \frac{1}{4\pi b} \log m - ib/4\right)} \right| + \frac{1}{8} \log m$$

$$\hbar = \pi b^2$$

Its Fredholm determinant

$$\det(1 + \kappa\rho)$$

solves q-Painlevé III_3

Example:



The Fredholm determinant $\tau_q(\kappa, \xi) \sim \det(1 + \kappa \rho)$

where $q = e^{\frac{4\pi^2}{\hbar}}$, $\xi = \log m$, solves q-Painlevé III_3

$$\tau_q\left(-\kappa, \xi - \frac{4\pi^2 i}{\hbar}\right) \tau_q\left(-\kappa, \xi + \frac{4\pi^2 i}{\hbar}\right) (1 + e^{-\xi/2}) = \tau_q(\kappa, \xi)^2 + e^{-\xi/2} \tau_q(-\kappa, \xi)^2$$

→ $\det(1 + \kappa \rho)$ provides a generalisation of the $PIII_3$ McCoy et al solution for q-Painlevé III_3

→ Using the interplay between the topological string/spectral theory duality and Kyiv formula we can construct geometrically new Fredholm determinant solutions to q-difference Painlevé equations

Another problem in which this connection is useful is in the study of **long-distance expansion** of q-Painlevé equations

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. . . let us make one step back to Painlevé equation . . .

PIII3 tau function at short-distance (small t)

$$\tau^{\text{GIL}}(t, \sigma, \eta) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} e^{2\pi i n \eta} Z(\sigma + n, t)$$

Gamayun, Iorgov, Lisovyy

$$Z(\sigma, t) = t^{\sigma^2} \frac{\mathcal{B}(\sigma, t)}{G(1 + 2\sigma)G(1 - 2\sigma)}$$

$\mathcal{B}(\sigma, t) =$ Nekrasov instanton function for the pure 4 dim $SU(2)$ $\mathcal{N} = 2$ SYM theory (in the self-dual phase $\epsilon_1 = -\epsilon_2 = \epsilon$) — also called $N_f = 0$ theory

$$\mathcal{B}(\sigma, t) = 1 + \sum_{n \geq 1} c_n(\sigma) t^n = 1 + \frac{t}{2\sigma^2} + \frac{8\sigma^2 + 1}{4\sigma^2(4\sigma^2 - 1)} t^2 + \dots$$

This construction was generalised to q-Painleve first by Bershtein and Shchepochkin

What about expansion around $t = \infty$?

$$\tau^\infty(\rho, \nu, r) = e^{\frac{r^2}{16}} r^{\frac{1}{4}} \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} C(\nu + in) e^{4\pi in \rho} e^{(\nu + in)r} r^{\frac{1}{2}(\nu + in)^2} \mathcal{B}^\infty(\nu + in, r)$$

$$C(\nu) = G(1 + i\nu) 2^{\nu^2} e^{\frac{i\pi\nu^2}{4}} (2\pi)^{-\frac{i\nu}{2}}, \quad t = 2^{-12} r^4$$

$$\mathcal{B}^\infty(\nu, r) = 1 + \frac{\nu(2\nu^2 + 1)}{8r} + \frac{\nu^2(4\nu^4 - 16\nu^2 - 11)}{128r^2} + \dots$$

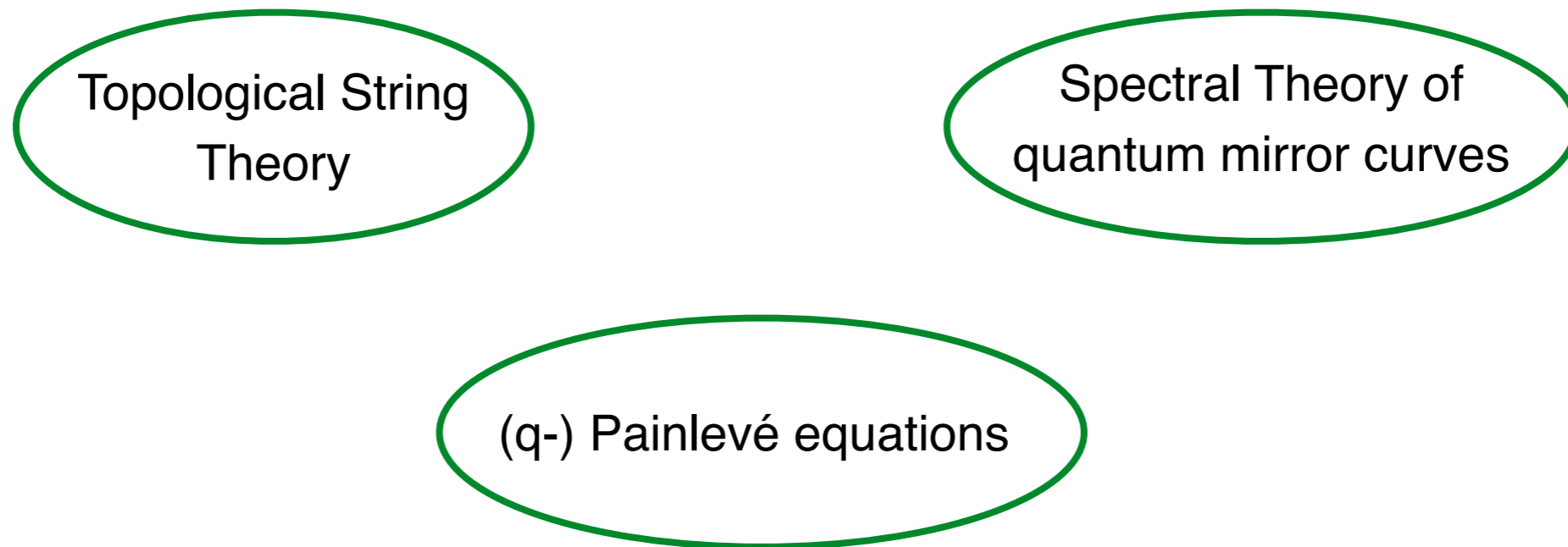
Its, Lisovyy, Tykhyy- Bonelli, Lisovyy, Maruyoshi, Sciarappa, Tanzini -
Gavrylenko, Marshakov, Stoyan - ...

Can we generalise this to q-Painleve? Yes, on the topological string this is related to the expansion around the conifold point

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Summary & Conclusions

We have three main players



... and many connections among them leading to new and interesting results

Thank you!