

# Twining Genera of $K3$

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# Outlines of the Talk

- Introduction to NLSMs on  $K3$
- Definition of the Twining Genera of  $K3$ .
- Brief discussion on their physical and mathematical implications.



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# Superconformal Field Theories



# Quick Introduction

Superconformal Field Theories are supersymmetric extensions of Conformal Field Theories.

We will focus in particular on  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  SCFTs in  $D = 2$ , in which the Virasoro algebra is extended by the presence of four  $3/2$ -spin supercurrents  $G(z)$  and three  $1$ -spin currents  $J(z)$ .



Where are they?

# String Theory point of view

The most common examples of 2D-SCFTs relevant in the String Theory context are *Non-Linear  $\sigma$ -Models*. Explicitly we have:

$$S = \frac{1}{4\pi\alpha'} \int_{\Sigma} d^2\sigma \left[ \left( \delta^{ab} G_{\mu\nu}(X) + i\epsilon^{ab} B_{\mu\nu}(X) \right) \partial_a X^\mu \partial_b X^\nu \right]$$

We can clearly notice that the model is completely determined by fixing the couple  $(G_{\mu\nu}, B_{\mu\nu})$ .



Where are they?

# Target-Space

We want now to consider a  $\mathcal{N} = (4, 4)$  2D-SCFTs whose target space is a K3 surface.

Such theories arise when we compactify Type IIA and Type IIB Theories on the 10D space-time:

$$M_{10} = \mathcal{M}_{1,3} \times K3 \times \mathbb{T}^2$$



# NLSMs on $K3$





# K3 Surfaces

K3 surfaces are interesting because their (restricted) Holonomy group is  $SU(2)$  and thus only half of the number of starting supercharges is preserved.

This means that we can have:

$$\underbrace{\text{Type II A-B}}_{D=10} \xrightarrow{K3 \times \mathbb{T}^2} \underbrace{\mathcal{N} = 4 \text{ SUGRA}}_{D=4}$$



# What can we compute?

In this context, the relevant physical quantities that can be potentially computed are:

- Partition Function
- Witten Index
- Elliptic Genus
- Twining Genus



# In Formulae (1)

- The Partition Function is defined, as usual, as:

$$Z(q, \bar{q}) = \text{Tr}_{\mathcal{H}}[e^{-2\pi(\tau_2 H - i\tau_1 P)}] = \dots = \text{Tr}_{\mathcal{H}}[q^{L_0} \bar{q}^{\bar{L}_0}]$$

- The Witten Index:

$$Z = \text{Tr}_{RR}[(-1)^{F+\bar{F}} q^{L_0} \bar{q}^{\bar{L}_0}] = \dots = \chi_{ts}$$

with  $\tau = \tau_1 + i\tau_2$  the modular parameter of the torus,  
 $q = e^{2\pi i\tau}$ ,  $\bar{q} = e^{2\pi i\bar{\tau}}$  and  $F, \bar{F}$  the left- and right-moving  
 fermion numbers.



## In Formulae (2)

- The Elliptic Genus is defined as:

$$Z(q, y) = \text{Tr}_{RR} [(-1)^{F+\bar{F}} q^{L_0} \bar{q}^{\bar{L}_0} y^Q]$$

with  $y = e^{2\pi iz}$ ,  $z \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $Q$  the generator of a  $u(1)$  algebra contained in the  $su(2)$  R-symmetry algebra belonging to the  $\mathcal{N} = (4, 4)$  superconformal algebra.

- Finally, supposing that a given NLSM on K3 has a discrete symmetry  $g$  commuting with the  $\mathcal{N} = (4, 4)$  algebra, the corresponding Twining Genus can be defined as:

$$Z_g(q, y) = \text{Tr}_{RR} [(-1)^{F+\bar{F}} q^{L_0} \bar{q}^{\bar{L}_0} y^Q g]$$



# Here come the issues...

Everything we introduced above is not explicitly computable for a NLSM whose target-space is a GENERIC K3 surface.

We need therefore to simplify the problem by choosing a NLSM defined on a "treatable" target-space.

One possibility is thus to choose a special point of the moduli space of K3 for which  $K3 \simeq \mathbb{T}^4/\mathbb{Z}_2$ .



# $K3$ as Torus Orbifold



# Symmetries Classification

All such (discrete) symmetries have been classified, for generic NLSMs on K3, in [Gaberdiel, Hohenegger, Volpato, 1106.4315]. Thanks to the proposed Classification Theorem, in [Cheng, Harrison, Volpato, Zimet, 1612.04404], it is shown that there are exactly 81 different Twining Genera for K3.



# Symmetries of the Orbifold case

Let us now focus only on symmetries which are realized on NLSMs on  $\mathbb{T}^4/\mathbb{Z}_2$ .

Such symmetries can be explicitly obtained by starting from discrete symmetries  $g$  of generic NLSMs on  $\mathbb{T}^4$  (classified in [Volpato, 1403.2410]), commuting with the non trivial element  $h \in \mathbb{Z}_2$ .





# Twining Genus for $\mathbb{T}^4/\mathbb{Z}_2$

Knowing that fields defined on  $\mathbb{T}^4/\mathbb{Z}_2$  must satisfy the conditions

$$X_i(\sigma + 2\pi R, \tau) = \begin{cases} + X_i(\sigma, \tau) & (\text{Untw-Sector}) \\ - X_i(\sigma, \tau) & (\text{Tw-Sector}), \end{cases}$$

the Twining Genus on  $\mathbb{T}^4/\mathbb{Z}_2$  becomes:

$$Z_g(q, y) = \text{Tr}_{untw} \left[ \frac{(1+h)}{2} q^{L_0} \bar{q}^{\bar{L}_0} (-1)^{F+\bar{F}} y^Q g \right] \\ + \text{Tr}_{tw} \left[ \frac{(1+h)}{2} q^{L_0} \bar{q}^{\bar{L}_0} (-1)^{F+\bar{F}} y^Q g \right]$$



# An Explicit Formula

The final formula for a generic symmetry  $g$ , realized on a Torus Orbifold, whose eigenvalues are  $\zeta_L, \zeta_L^{-1}, \zeta_R, \zeta_R^{-1}$ , with  $\zeta_{L,R} = e^{2\pi i r_{L,R}}$  and both ( $\neq 1$ ), is:

$$\begin{aligned}
 Z_g^{orb}(\tau, z) = & \frac{1}{2} \left[ \frac{\theta_1(z + r_L|\tau) \theta_1(z - r_L|\tau)}{\theta_1(r_L|\tau) \theta_1(-r_L|\tau)} \cdot (2 - \zeta_L - \zeta_L^{-1})(2 - \zeta_R - \zeta_R^{-1}) \right. \\
 & + \frac{\theta_2(z + r_L|\tau) \theta_2(z - r_L|\tau)}{\theta_2(r_L|\tau) \theta_2(-r_L|\tau)} \cdot (2 + \zeta_L + \zeta_L^{-1})(2 + \zeta_R + \zeta_R^{-1}) \\
 & \left. + \left( \frac{\theta_4(z + r_L|\tau) \theta_4(z - r_L|\tau)}{\theta_4(r_L|\tau) \theta_4(-r_L|\tau)} + \frac{\theta_3(z + r_L|\tau) \theta_3(z - r_L|\tau)}{\theta_3(r_L|\tau) \theta_3(-r_L|\tau)} \right) \cdot \text{Tr}_{\mathcal{H}_{gs}^{tw}}[\rho(g)] \right]
 \end{aligned}$$



# Examples

- *Elliptic Genus*:  $g = \mathbb{1}$  ( $r_{L,R} = 0$ )

$$Z^{orb}(\tau, z) = 8 \cdot \left[ \frac{\theta_2(z|\tau)^2}{\theta_2(0|\tau)^2} + \frac{\theta_4(z|\tau)^2}{\theta_4(0|\tau)^2} + \frac{\theta_3(z|\tau)^2}{\theta_3(0|\tau)^2} \right]$$

- (New)  $\pi_{g_1} = 1^8 2^{-8} 4^8$  of Table 3, p.46, in [Paquette, Volpato, Zimet, 1702.05095], with the eigenvalues  $\zeta_{L,R} = -1$ , chosen in Table 2, p.20, from [Volpato, 1403.2410]:

$$Z_{g_1}^{orb}(\tau, z) = 8 \cdot \frac{\theta_1(z + \frac{1}{2}|\tau) \theta_1(z - \frac{1}{2}|\tau)}{\theta_1(\frac{1}{2}|\tau) \theta_1(-\frac{1}{2}|\tau)},$$



# Possible Applications

The computation of the Twining Genera of K3 may be interesting:

- To study the hidden symmetries of  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  SUGRA in  $D = 4$ .
- To estimate the entropy of some kinds of Supersymmetric Black Holes.
- To verify the conjectured values of the 81 Twining Genera listed in [Paquette, Volpato, Zimet, 1702.05095].
- To have a better comprehension of the *Mathieu Moonshine Phenomenon*.