

Counting spinning dyons in maximal supergravity:  
The Hodge-elliptic genus for tori

Nathan Benjamin<sup>1</sup>, Shamit Kachru<sup>1</sup> and Arnav Tripathy<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Stanford Institute for Theoretical Physics  
Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA 94305, USA

<sup>2</sup>Department of Mathematics, Harvard University  
Cambridge, MA 02138, USA

**Abstract**

We consider  $M$ -theory compactified on  $T^4 \times T^2$  and describe the count of spinning 1/8-BPS states. This refines the classic count of Maldacena-Moore-Strominger in the physics literature and the recent mathematical work of Bryan-Oberdieck-Pandharipande-Yin, which studied reduced Donaldson-Thomas invariants of abelian surfaces and threefolds. As in previous work on  $K3 \times T^2$  compactification, we track angular momenta under both the  $SU(2)_L$  and  $SU(2)_R$  factors in the 5d little group, providing predictions for the relevant motivic curve counts.

# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>The unflavored 1/8-BPS spectrum</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>The flavored 1/8-BPS spectrum</b>	<b>6</b>
3.1	Refined counts . . . . .	7
3.2	$SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ invariance . . . . .	10
<b>4</b>	<b>Motivic DT invariants of abelian varieties</b>	<b>12</b>

## 1 Introduction

The counting of microstates contributing to BPS black hole entropy in  $K3 \times T^2$  compactification of M-theory started with the work of Strominger-Vafa in [1], and was given a more precise description in [2] shortly thereafter. The seemingly easier, and more supersymmetric, case of a purely toroidal compactification of  $M$ -theory took a few more years until the treatment of [3]. Indeed, the computation for the  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  theory arising from  $K3 \times T^2$  compactification<sup>1</sup> proceeded via computing elliptic genera of the family of CFTs one obtains from the  $D1 - D5$  system, and these analogous counts in the  $\mathcal{N} = 8$  theory naively vanish. It hence took some ingenuity to define an appropriately-corrected elliptic genus in order to perform a nontrivial computation.

Recently, a Hodge-elliptic genus was proposed as an analogous quantity that would be of use in computing not just the BPS spectrum in such theories, but also its flavoring by the full  $SU(2) \times SU(2)$  little group of the theory [4] (while typically, earlier approaches kept only a single  $SU(2)$  quantum number). In [4], the  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  theory above was treated. Here, we offer an analogous treatment of the  $\mathcal{N} = 8$  theory. This case of maximal supersymmetry is in some sense a nicer showcase for the Hodge-elliptic genus, in that the unflavored counting function suffers from subtleties alluded to above: the extra supersymmetry forces the need for recurring modifications to the counting formulas and techniques used. On the other hand, the flavored counting function from the Hodge-elliptic genus can be

---

<sup>1</sup>We use the convention that half-maximal supersymmetry in 5d is called  $\mathcal{N} = 4$ , while maximal supersymmetry is  $\mathcal{N} = 8$ ; this is in keeping with the normal convention in 4d.

evaluated straightforwardly in the  $\mathcal{N} = 8$  theory, with no need for special modifications that do not arise in cases with less supersymmetry. Of course, we remind the reader that the Hodge-elliptic genus badly fails to be an index and may jump discontinuously as one moves in moduli space [5]. While this upper semicontinuous jumping is entirely physical in that the flavored BPS spectrum indeed varies with moduli, one may reasonably object to this added complication if one is only interested in the unflavored count. Note furthermore that in this case, the relevant worldsheet theory is a  $\sigma$  model with target  $\text{Hilb}^n T^4$ . Maldacena-Moore-Strominger were certainly able to solve for the full partition function of this free theory, and worked directly from this even more informative function before reducing to their supersymmetric index. In this free theory, by studying the Hodge-elliptic genus we are essentially simply insisting on focusing attention on a less specialized limit of the easily computable full partition function. We will leave aesthetic deliberations regarding these approaches to the judgment of the reader.

Mathematically, as in [4], the effect of flavoring our BPS particle count by the additional  $SU(2)$  angular momentum is to refine a Donaldson-Thomas generating function to a motivic Donaldson-Thomas generating function [6]. We hence provide an interpretation of our results here in this language in section 4, extending conjectures of [7]. Mathematical readers may hence wish to only briefly skim the intervening sections for the electrifying thrill before focusing on section 4.

The next section recalls the BPS spectrum of this  $\mathcal{N} = 8$  theory, largely following [3] and [8, 9, 10]. We present the refined counts in section 3. Section 4 provides the mathematical interpretation in terms of motivic Donaldson-Thomas invariants.

## 2 The unflavored 1/8-BPS spectrum

We study the D1-D5 system on  $T^4 \times S^1$ , and consider the computation of BPS states on the worldvolume of the resulting effective string. In contrast to the  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  case, here the counting function capturing the 1/4-BPS spectrum is just 1. If we attempt to count Dabholkar-Harvey states [11], we have particles in the ground state on the right and the excitations of 8 bosonic and 8 fermionic oscillators on the left. These precisely cancel. More formally, where in the  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  theory we would obtain in this way a sum of Euler characteristics of  $\text{Hilb}^n K3$ ,

now we wish to sum

$$\sum \chi(\text{Hilb}^n T^4) q^n = 1. \quad (2.1)$$

The sum is 1 by localization, as the manifolds occurring in each term except the zeroth term admit a free  $T^4$ -action, and hence have trivial Euler characteristic. In other words, the indexed count of 1/4-BPS states only captures the vacuum.

In fact, the more refined counts, such as the 1/4-BPS spectrum flavored by the  $SU(2)_L$  angular momentum or the 1/8-BPS spectrum (which in a sense already has the  $SU(2)_L$  flavoring), would also be trivial if not corrected. In order to provide a nontrivial match to black hole entropy, the authors of [3] performed a more sophisticated count of these states by weighting the counts by  $F_R^2$ . If one computes these corrected counts by considering the  $D1 - D5$  frame (using  $U$ -duality to suppose we have a single 5-brane and some variable number of 1-branes), considering the effective field theory of the 1-branes dissolved in the 5-brane yields the  $\sigma$ -model to  $\text{Hilb}^n T^4$ . The relevant counts here are naively given by the  $\chi_y$  genus and the elliptic genus  $Z_{EG}$ , respectively. To obtain the more sophisticated counts, which we denote by the reduced  $\tilde{\chi}_y$  genus and the reduced elliptic genus  $\tilde{Z}_{EG}$ , we need again insert an  $F_R^2$  in the worldvolume CFT traces on the effective string. In fact, we only need to know these traces for the first theory, the  $\sigma$ -model to  $T^4$ . The other CFTs of interest are simply its orbifold symmetric powers, and any trace over the full series will be given by a multiplicative lift of the answer for the first CFT [12].

The reduced  $\tilde{\chi}_y$  genus is easy to compute. Recalling the full Hodge diamond of  $T^4$ , with Hodge polynomial

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hodge}(T^4) &= (y^{1/2} - y^{-1/2})^2 (u^{1/2} - u^{-1/2})^2 \\ &= y^{-1} u^{-1} - 2y^{-1} - 2u^{-1} + y^{-1} u + 4 + y u^{-1} - 2u - 2y + y u \\ \implies \tilde{\chi}_y(T^4) &= -(1 \cdot 0^2 - 2 \cdot 1^2 + 1 \cdot 2^2) y^{-1} + (2 \cdot 0^2 - 4 \cdot 1^2 + 2 \cdot 2^2) - (1 \cdot 0^2 - 2 \cdot 1^2 + 1 \cdot 2^2) y \\ &= -2y + 4 - 2y^{-1}. \end{aligned} \quad (2.2)$$

We may multiplicatively lift this result to find the reduced spinning 1/4-BPS

state count

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{1}{2} \sum (c_n^{r_L})_{5d} F_R^2 p^n y^{[r_L]} &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_n \tilde{\chi}_y(\text{Hilb}^n T^4) p^n \\
&= \frac{1}{2} (u \partial_u)^2 \left( \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(1-p^n y)^2 (1-p^n y^{-1})^2 (1-p^n u)^2 (1-p^n u^{-1})^2}{(1-p^n)^4 (1-p^n u y) (1-p^n u^{-1} y) (1-p^n u y^{-1}) (1-p^n u^{-1} y^{-1})} \right) \Big|_{u=1} \\
&= (y^{-1} - 2 + y)p + (2y^{-2} + y - 6 + y + 2y^2)p^2 \\
&\quad + (3y^{-3} + y^{-1} - 8 + y + 3y^3)p^3 + \mathcal{O}(p^4). \tag{2.3}
\end{aligned}$$

Here, we use the notation  $(c_n^{r_L})_{5d}$  for the number of 1/4-BPS representations with spin  $r_L$  under  $SU(2)_L$  in five-dimensions, which we need to weight by two factors of the right-moving fermion number to cancel fermion zero-modes. We also use the notation

$$j^{[\ell]} = j^{-2\ell} + j^{-2(\ell-1)} + \dots + j^{2(\ell-1)} + j^{2\ell} \tag{2.4}$$

to track characters of  $SU(2)$ .

Note that in the above multiplicative lift procedure (unlike the  $K3$  case), we have to take some care with fermionic versus bosonic modes, placing them in the numerator or denominator appropriately.

We could in fact compute the reduced 1/8-BPS spectrum directly, using the idea that 1/8-BPS particles are dyons of two 1/4-BPS particles [13], thereby writing the generating function as an additive lift of the reduced spinning 1/4-BPS spectrum count (in fact, overall as a reduced analog of the Maass-Skoruppa lift for the reduced unflavored 1/4-BPS spectrum count, which is still just 1). Here, in fact, the reduced elliptic genus<sup>2</sup> is, up to a sign, the named Jacobi form  $\phi_{-2,1}$  (see e.g. §4.3 of [14], eq. (4.29))

$$\tilde{Z}_{EG}(T^4) = -\phi_{-2,1} = \sum c(n, \ell) q^n y^\ell \tag{2.5}$$

and its (correctly reduced) multiplicative lift as per Dijkgraaf-Moore-Verlinde-Verlinde (DMVV) [12] gives the reduced 1/8-BPS state count

$$\Phi_{5d} = \sum_{n \geq 1, m \geq 0, \ell} \frac{c(nm, \ell) p^n q^m y^\ell}{(1 - p^n q^m y^\ell)^2}. \tag{2.6}$$

---

<sup>2</sup>Normalized as in eq (2.1) of [8].

In fact, an application of the generating function identity

$$\frac{t}{(1-t)^2} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n t^n \quad (2.7)$$

yields that the reduced 1/8-BPS state count may be rewritten as

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi_{5d} &= \sum_{n,m,\ell,s} sc(nm, \ell) p^{ns} q^{ms} y^{\ell s} \\ &= \sum_{n \geq 1, m \geq 0, \ell} \sum_{d|(n,m,\ell)} dc \left( \frac{nm}{d^2}, \frac{\ell}{d} \right) p^n q^m y^\ell, \end{aligned} \quad (2.8)$$

so that in this case we see the reduced multiplicative lift of the reduced elliptic genus actually coincides with this kind of additive lift expression.

The formula above tells us that the entropy of states with  $Q_1$  D1-branes wrapping  $S^1$ ,  $Q_5$  D5-branes wrapping  $T^4 \times S^1$ ,  $m$  units of momentum on the circle, and  $\ell$  units of  $SU(2)_L$  angular momentum is given by

$$\Omega_{5d}(Q_1, Q_5, m, \ell) = \sum_{d|(n,m,\ell)} d \, c \left( \frac{Q_1 Q_5 m}{d^2}, \frac{\ell}{d} \right). \quad (2.9)$$

Note that this formula holds for mutually co-prime charges.<sup>3</sup>

Now, we perform a 4d/5d lift to find the 4d counting function, following [8, 9, 10]. The result is

$$\Phi_{4d} = \sum_{n \geq 0, m \geq 0, \ell} \frac{c(nm, \ell) p^n q^m y^\ell}{(1 - p^n q^m y^\ell)^2}, \quad (2.10)$$

differing from the 5d result by the inclusion of the  $n = 0$  term. The sum over  $\ell$  should be taken to run over only  $\ell > 0$  when  $n = m = 0$ .

### 3 The flavored 1/8-BPS spectrum

As in prior work in the  $K3$  case [4, 15], we may refine the above counts by flavoring by the  $SU(2)_R$  angular momentum. In this more supersymmetric case,

---

<sup>3</sup>By mutually co-prime, we mean that no single factor divides all of the charges. The reason for the subtlety in cases with non co-prime charges is that the relevant D-brane moduli space contains multi-center components, rendering the analysis considerably more subtle.

this refinement carries the additional benefit that we no longer need to take some sort of reduced, sophisticated count in order to find nonvanishing BPS generating functions. Instead, all our counts proceed in complete analogy with the  $K3$  case.

### 3.1 Refined counts

We first return to the 1/4-BPS particle spectrum, now flavoring by both  $SU(2)_L$  and  $SU(2)_R$ . Putting everything back in the  $D1 - D5$  frame, we find that we are computing Hodge polynomials of the respective  $\sigma$ -model targets and evaluate, by the logic of [12],

$$\begin{aligned} \sum (c_n^{r_L, r_R})_{5d} p^n y^{[r_L]} u^{[r_R]} &= \sum \text{Hodge}(\text{Hilb}^n T^4) p^n \\ &= \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(1 - y^{-1} p^n)^2 (1 - u^{-1} p^n)^2 (1 - y p^n)^2 (1 - u p^n)^2}{(1 - y^{-1} u^{-1} p^n) (1 - y^{-1} u p^n) (1 - p^n)^4 (1 - y u^{-1} p^n) (1 - y u p^n)} . \end{aligned} \quad (3.1)$$

We can again write this as the prefactor

$$- \frac{1}{16} \frac{u - y - y^{-1} + u^{-1}}{u_-^2 y_-^2} \quad (3.2)$$

times the multivariate Jacobi form

$$\varphi(\sigma, \nu, z) = \frac{\theta_1(\sigma, z)^2 \theta_1(\sigma, \nu)^2}{\theta_1(\sigma, z + \nu) \theta_1(\sigma, z - \nu) \eta(\sigma)^6}, \quad (3.3)$$

where we define  $y = e^{2\pi i z}$ ,  $u = e^{2\pi i \nu}$ ,  $p = e^{2\pi i \sigma}$ , and the notation

$$\begin{aligned} u_- &= \frac{u^{-1/2} - u^{1/2}}{2}, \\ y_- &= \frac{y^{-1/2} - y^{1/2}}{2}. \end{aligned} \quad (3.4)$$

We now move to the spinning 1/8-BPS state count. As in [4], the five-dimensional count is given by the multiplicative lift of the Hodge-elliptic genus  $Z_{HEG}$ , defined as

$$Z_{HEG} = \text{Tr}_{\text{right g.s.}} \left( (-1)^F q^{L_0 - c/24} y^{F_L} u^{F_R} \right), \quad (3.5)$$

where the trace is taken over the subspace of the Ramond-Ramond Hilbert space where the right-moving part is a ground state. This definition, applied to a  $\sigma$ -model to  $T^4$ , gives a function  $Z_{HEG}(T^4)$  that a priori may depend heavily on the  $T^4$  in question. And indeed, it does: there are visibly points in the moduli space of the  $T^4$  where we may pick up extra chiral currents and  $Z_{HEG}$  will jump (upper semi-continuously). In [4], however, the Hodge-elliptic genus was computed at a generic point in moduli space for a torus in any dimension, as reconfirmed there by a mathematical sheaf cohomology computation that should pick out the large-volume (generic) answer. We recall the generic answer

$$Z_{HEG}(T^4) = - \left( 4 \frac{\theta_1(\tau, z)}{\theta_1^*(\tau, 0)} u_- \right)^2. \quad (3.6)$$

Here,

$$\theta_1^*(\tau, 0) = -2q^{1/8} \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - q^n)^3 \quad (3.7)$$

is essentially a provocative way of writing  $\eta(\tau)^3$ , so that in the above we have the usual (indexed) answer  $\phi_{-2,1}(\tau, z)$  with some prescribed polynomial dependence in  $u$ .

As stated above, the five-dimensional spinning 1/8-BPS state count is a multiplicative lift of the Hodge-elliptic genus. At some point in moduli space, given

$$Z_{HEG}(T^4) = \sum c(n, \ell, k) q^n y^\ell u^k, \quad (3.8)$$

we have

$$\Phi_{5d}^{\text{refined}}(\sigma, \tau, \nu, z) = \sum (c_{n,\ell,m}^{r_R})_{5d} p^n y^\ell q^m u^{[r_R]} = \prod_{n \geq 1, m \geq 0, \ell, k} (1 - p^n y^\ell q^m u^k)^{-c(nm, \ell, k)}. \quad (3.9)$$

Here  $c_{n,\ell,m}$  is the count of 1/8-BPS states with  $n = Q_1 Q_5$  (the product of the numbers of D1 and D5 branes),  $\ell$  giving the  $SU(2)_L$  angular momentum,  $k$  giving the  $SU(2)_R$  angular momentum, and  $m$  counting the momentum on the circle. By analogy with the familiar picture of  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  black holes, it may also be convenient to think of the quantum numbers other than  $SU(2)_R$  as electric and magnetic



charges, via

$$\begin{aligned} n &= \frac{1}{2} Q_e \cdot Q_e \\ m &= \frac{1}{2} Q_m \cdot Q_m \\ \ell &= Q_e \cdot Q_m \end{aligned} \tag{3.10}$$

Note that the counting in  $\Phi_{5d}^{\text{refined}}$  is again valid for mutually co-prime charges. We will be content to work at this level of generality, but it is important to remember that there would be two natural extensions. The BPS count admits further flavoring to keep track of individual  $U(1)$  symmetries instead of just U-duality invariants. And as the U-duality symmetry in five dimensions is  $E_{6,6}(\mathbb{Z})$ , there should be automorphic forms for  $E_{6,6}$  which play a natural role in the theory. See e.g. [9] for further discussion of this aspect.

As usual, and as studied in detail for this theory in [8, 9, 10], we may also recover the four-dimensional state count via the 4d/5d lift. In terms of the multiplicative lift, this adds back the  $n = 0$  term that is absent in  $\Phi_{5d}^{\text{refined}}$ , yielding

$$\Phi_{4d}^{\text{refined}}(\sigma, \tau, \nu, z) = \sum (c_{n,\ell,m}^{r_R})_{5d} p^n y^\ell q^m u^{[r_R]} = \prod_{n \geq 0, m \geq 0, \ell, k} (1 - p^n y^\ell q^m u^k)^{-c(nm, \ell, k)}. \tag{3.11}$$

It is to be understood in taking the product that when  $n = m = 0$ , one should restrict to  $\ell < 0$ . The resulting 4d count takes the form

$$\Phi_{4d}^{\text{refined}}(\sigma, \tau, \nu, z) = \frac{1}{4} \frac{\varphi(\tau, \nu, z)}{u_-^2} \Phi_{5d}^{\text{refined}}(\sigma, \tau, \nu, z) \tag{3.12}$$

Once again, a natural extension would be to promote this to an  $E_{7,7}(\mathbb{Z})$  invariant expression to respect the U-duality of the 4d theory; in the unrefined case, such an expression was provided in [16].

The above invariants do reduce back to the invariants of [3] in a suitable limit of parameters, but in a slightly sophisticated way. If one simply unflavors the  $SU(2)_R$  angular momentum by taking  $u \rightarrow 1$ , the counts simply vanish. In order to obtain the nontrivial counts with the  $F_R^2$  insertion, we note following the

definition of the Hodge-elliptic genus that

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{1}{2} \left( u \frac{\partial}{\partial u} \right)^2 Z_{HEG} \Big|_{u=1} &= \frac{1}{2} \left( u \frac{\partial}{\partial u} \right)^2 \text{Tr}_{\text{right g.s.}} \left( (-1)^F q^{L_0 - c/24} y^{F_L} u^{F_R} \right) \Big|_{u=1} \\
&= \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr}_{\text{right g.s.}} \left( (-1)^F q^{L_0 - c/24} y^{F_L} (F_R)^2 u^{F_R} \right) \Big|_{u=1} \\
&= \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr}_{\text{right g.s.}} \left( (-1)^F q^{L_0 - c/24} y^{F_L} (F_R)^2 \right) \\
&= \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \left( (-1)^F (F_R)^2 q^{L_0 - c/24} y^{F_L} \right). \tag{3.13}
\end{aligned}$$

Notice that the last step, where we replace the trace over the sub-Hilbert space of states with right-moving part a ground state (all in the Ramond-Ramond sector) with the full Hilbert space, only works given sufficient supersymmetry and fermion zero-modes to make the usual index vanish, as is the case here. One can check explicitly now that our refined counts can be simplified back to the original count of Maldacena-Moore-Strominger [3] yielding  $\Phi_{5d}$ , or the expression of Sen for  $\Phi_{4d}$  [10], by applying  $\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \nu^2}$  to the appropriate refined counting function and taking  $\nu \rightarrow 0$ .

Finally we note that because our refined count is not an index, and is computed at the symmetric orbifold point where  $g_s = 0$  in the gravity dual arising in AdS/CFT, we are not counting black hole entropy. It is possible that cancellations occur as we move away from the orbifold point, and the black hole entropy is smaller as one moves away (see e.g. [17]).

### 3.2 $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ invariance

We now discuss automorphy properties of  $\Phi_{4d}^{\text{refined}}$ . In particular we show that  $\Phi_{4d}^{\text{refined}}$  exhibits invariance under an  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$  similar to the one which preserves  $\Phi_{4d}$ , as discussed in [10] (where it is related to S-duality). The  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$  action is

$$\Phi_{4d}^{\text{refined}}(\sigma', \tau', z', \nu') = \Phi_{4d}^{\text{refined}}(\sigma, \tau, z, \nu) \tag{3.14}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
\sigma' &= d^2 \sigma + b^2 \tau + 2bdz \\
\tau' &= c^2 \sigma + a^2 \tau + 2acz \\
z' &= cd\sigma + ab\tau + (ad + bc)z \\
\nu' &= \nu
\end{aligned} \tag{3.15}$$

and  $\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ . To show this, we will prove invariance under both  $S = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $T = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

The  $S$  transform takes

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma' &= \tau \\ \tau' &= \sigma \\ z' &= -z\end{aligned}\tag{3.16}$$

which exchanges  $p$  and  $q$ , and takes  $y$  to  $y^{-1}$ . From the definition of  $\Phi_{4d}^{\text{refined}}$  in (3.11), it is clear that there is a  $p, q$  exchange symmetry. Exchanging  $y$  with  $y^{-1}$  is charge conjugation which is also a symmetry present.

Now note that the  $T$  transform takes

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma' &= \sigma + \tau + 2z \\ \tau' &= \tau \\ z' &= \tau + z.\end{aligned}\tag{3.17}$$

This takes  $y$  to  $yq$  and  $p$  to  $pqy^2$ . Recall that we can write  $\Phi_{5d}^{\text{refined}}$  as [4]

$$\Phi_{5d}^{\text{refined}}(\sigma, \tau, z, \nu) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} p^n Z_{HEG}(\text{Sym}^n(T^4))(\tau, z, \nu).\tag{3.18}$$

From this we see that acting on  $\Phi_{5d}^{\text{refined}}$ , (3.17) has a clear interpretation as spectral flow on the left by one unit, which we recall takes

$$\begin{aligned}L_0 &\rightarrow L_0 + J_0 + c/6 \\ J_0 &\rightarrow J_0 + c/3.\end{aligned}\tag{3.19}$$

Thus  $\Phi_{5d}^{\text{refined}}$  is invariant under (3.17). Now, to show  $\Phi_{4d}^{\text{refined}}$  is invariant, we just need to show

$$\varphi(\tau, \nu, z) = \varphi(\tau, \nu, z + \tau).\tag{3.20}$$

(see (3.12)).

From the classic identity

$$\theta_1(\tau, z + \tau)q^{1/2}y = -\theta_1(\tau, z)\tag{3.21}$$

and the definition of  $\varphi(\tau, \nu, z)$  in (3.3), we see that (3.20) is satisfied, proving  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$  invariance of  $\Phi_{4d}^{\text{refined}}$ .

## 4 Motivic DT invariants of abelian varieties

We recall the enumerative geometry interpretation of refining by the  $SU(2)_R$  angular momentum, following [6]. The refined invariants of the prior section assume an interpretation as motivic Donaldson-Thomas invariants, refining the enumerative geometry interpretations found in [7] for the indexed counts, notably in their Corollary 5. The doubly-spinning 1/4-BPS count finds an interpretation of a motivic stable pair count on an abelian surface, paralleling [15]. Here, we focus on giving the interpretation for the more informative refined 1/8-BPS count.

Hence, consider some abelian threefold  $X$  that splits as a product  $A \times E$ , with  $A$  an abelian surface and  $E$  an elliptic curve. In general, for any curve class  $\beta \in H_2(X; \mathbb{Z})$  and some integer  $n$  corresponding to our  $D0$  number, we may hope to define a Donaldson-Thomas invariant as a (weighted) Euler characteristic of some Hilbert scheme  $\text{Hilb}^n(X, \beta) = \{Z \subset X \mid [Z] = \beta, \chi(\mathcal{O}_Z) = n\}$ , but as this invariant would essentially always vanish due to the free  $X$ -action, it is more prudent to quotient by the  $X$ -action and consider the invariants of the resulting space. We hence conjecture that in our cases of interest, we have some natural quotient  $[\text{Hilb}^n(X, \beta)/X] \in K^{\hat{\mu}}(St)[\mathbb{L}^{-1}]$  in a version of a Grothendieck group of Deligne-Mumford stacks, whose Poincaré polynomials  $P_u$  (as a motivic measure on the Grothendieck group) assemble into a generating function as follows:

$$\sum P_u[\text{Hilb}^n(X, (\beta_h, d))/X] p^d (-y)^n q^h = \Phi_{4d}^{\text{refined}}. \quad (4.1)$$

Note that, as in [4], we have left the choice of orientation needed to define motivic Donaldson-Thomas invariants somewhat murky above. As the orientation is essentially a choice of spin structure on the relevant moduli spaces of sheaves, we believe that all relevant moduli spaces in this case have trivial dualizing complex, in the appropriate sense, and that there is consequently a preferred “zero” orientation, which moreover happens to be the physically relevant one. A good physical understanding of the orientation issue remains to be well understood, to our knowledge.

The reduced Donaldson-Thomas invariants of  $T^4 \times T^2$  were further discussed recently in [18]. These authors in particular conjecture a formula (immediately following their Conjecture 2 on page 10) relating the exponential of the generating function of reduced Donaldson-Thomas invariants to the multiplicative lift of

$-\phi_{-2,1}$ . In our notation, their formula is<sup>4</sup>

$$\exp\left(\frac{1}{2}\left(u\frac{\partial}{\partial u}\right)^2\Phi_{4d}^{\text{refined}}|_{u=1}\right) = \prod_{n\geq 0, m\geq 0, \ell} \frac{1}{(1-p^n q^m y^\ell)^{c(nm, \ell)}}. \quad (4.2)$$

One can easily check that this is consistent with the specialization of our refined results for relatively prime charges (where we know our formulae to hold). Taking the logarithm of both sides, we obtain from the right hand side

$$-\sum_{n\geq 0, m\geq 0, \ell} c(nm, \ell) p^n q^m y^\ell \log(1 - p^n q^m y^\ell) = \sum_{n\geq 0, m\geq 0, k\geq 1, \ell} c(nm, \ell) \frac{1}{k} p^{nk} q^{mk} y^{\ell k}, \quad (4.3)$$

while our formula for the left hand side is

$$\Phi_{4d} = \sum_{n\geq 0, m\geq 0, \ell} \frac{c(nm, \ell) p^n q^m y^\ell}{(1 - p^n q^m y^\ell)^2}. \quad (4.4)$$

Taylor expanding the denominator we obtain

$$\Phi_{4d} = \sum_{n\geq 0, m\geq 0, k\geq 1, \ell} c(nm, \ell) k p^{nk} q^{mk} y^{\ell k}, \quad (4.5)$$

which looks distinct from the result in (4.3) until one recalls that we are only matching the coefficients for relatively prime charges. This fixes  $k = 1$ , and then the two expressions coincide as expected. As noted above, extending to non-coprime charges is sure to be interesting both mathematically, for the correct multiple-cover formula, and physically, as we expect the moduli space to turn non-compact.

### Acknowledgements

We thank G. Oberdieck, N. Paquette, X. Yin, and M. Zimet for helpful conversations, and we thank A. Iqbal, C. Kozcaz, and C. Vafa for explanations of relations to other work. We also thank N. Paquette for providing helpful commentary on early drafts of this manuscript. The research of S.K. was supported in part by the NSF under grant PHY-1316699. N.B. is supported by an NSF Graduate Fellowship and a Stanford Graduate Fellowship.

---

<sup>4</sup>In this formula and in all subsequent ones in this section, when  $n = m = 0$ , we take  $\ell > 0$  as usual.

## References

- [1] A. Strominger and C. Vafa, “Microscopic origin of the Bekenstein-Hawking entropy,” *Phys. Lett. B* **379**, 99 (1996) [hep-th/9601029].
- [2] R. Dijkgraaf, E. P. Verlinde and H. L. Verlinde, “Counting dyons in  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  string theory,” *Nucl. Phys. B* **484**, 543 (1997) [hep-th/9607026].
- [3] J. M. Maldacena, G. W. Moore and A. Strominger, “Counting BPS black holes in toroidal Type II string theory,” hep-th/9903163.
- [4] S. Kachru and A. Tripathy, “The Hodge-elliptic genus, spinning BPS states, and black holes,” arXiv:1609.02158 [hep-th].
- [5] S. Kachru and A. Tripathy, “BPS jumping loci and special cycles,” arXiv:1703.00455 [hep-th].
- [6] T. Dimofte and S. Gukov, “Refined, Motivic, and Quantum,” *Lett. Math. Phys.* **91**, 1 (2010) [arXiv:0904.1420 [hep-th]].
- [7] J. Bryan, G. Oberdieck, R. Pandharipande and Q. Yin, “Curve counting on abelian surfaces and threefolds,” arXiv:1506.00841 [alg-geom].
- [8] D. Shih, A. Strominger and X. Yin, “Counting dyons in  $\mathcal{N} = 8$  string theory,” *JHEP* **0606**, 037 (2006) [hep-th/0506151].
- [9] B. Pioline, “BPS black hole degeneracies and minimal automorphic representations,” *JHEP* **0508**, 071 (2005) [hep-th/0506228].
- [10] A. Sen, “ $\mathcal{N} = 8$  Dyon Partition Function and Walls of Marginal Stability,” *JHEP* **0807**, 118 (2008) [arXiv:0803.1014 [hep-th]].
- [11] A. Dabholkar and J. A. Harvey, “Nonrenormalization of the Superstring Tension,” *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **63**, 478 (1989).
- [12] R. Dijkgraaf, G. W. Moore, E. P. Verlinde and H. L. Verlinde, “Elliptic genera of symmetric products and second quantized strings,” *Commun. Math. Phys.* **185**, 197 (1997) [hep-th/9608096].
- [13] D. P. Jatkar and A. Sen, “Dyon spectrum in CHL models,” *JHEP* **0604**, 018 (2006) [hep-th/0510147].

- [14] A. Dabholkar, S. Murthy and D. Zagier, “Quantum Black Holes, Wall Crossing, and Mock Modular Forms,” arXiv:1208.4074 [hep-th].
- [15] S. Katz, A. Klemm and R. Pandharipande, “On the motivic stable pairs invariants of  $K3$  surfaces,” arXiv:1407.3181 [math.AG].
- [16] A. Sen, “U-duality Invariant Dyon Spectrum in type II on  $T^6$ ,” JHEP **0808**, 037 (2008) [arXiv:0804.0651 [hep-th]].
- [17] N. Benjamin, “A Refined Count of BPS States in the D1/D5 System,” arXiv:1610.07607 [hep-th].
- [18] G. Oberdieck and J. Shen, “Reduced Donaldson-Thomsas invariants and the ring of dual numbers,” arXiv:1612.03102.