

# Mathieu Moonshine: Symmetry Surfing and Quarter BPS states at the Kummer Point

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*Integrability, Anomalies and Quantum Field Theory*

*In honour of Samson Shatashvili @ 60*

*Paris, 11 February 2020*

1987-89

2010

2010

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Eguchi-T (N=4 characters)

Eguchi, Ooguri, T & Yang (conformal field theoretic elliptic genus of K3)

Eguchi, Ooguri & Tachikawa  
(Mathieu Moonshine observation)

T & Wendland

# PLAN

1. Elliptic genus of K3, 1/4 BPS states and Mathieu Moonshine
2. Generic and non generic K3 theories
3.  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -orbifold CFTs: a quest for a generic space of states
4. Refined elliptic genera

Work done in collaboration with Katrin Wendland (Freiburg)

1. *SU(2) channels the cancellation of K3 BPS states*, to be submitted to arXiv (July 2019)
2. *A twist in the M24 moonshine story*, arXiv:1303.3221 [hep-th]; Confluentes Mathematici 7(1) (2015) 83-113
3. *Symmetry surfing the moduli space of Kummer K3s*, arXiv:1303.2931 [hep-th] (String Maths proceedings (2015))
4. *Overarching finite symmetry group of Kummer surfaces in the Mathieu group M24*, arXiv:1107.3834 [hep-th]; JHEP08 (2013)125

# 1.1 2d Superconformal Field Theories (SCFT)

## 2d Euclidean SCFT (unitary)

- $N = (2, 2)$  worldsheet supersymmetry and spacetime supersymmetry at central charge  $(c, \bar{c} = c)$ ,  $c = 3D$ ,  $D \in \mathbb{N}$
- space of states:  $\mathbb{H} := \mathbb{H}^{\text{NS}} \oplus \mathbb{H}^{\text{R}}$  unitary  $\mathbb{C}$ -vector space
- $J_0, \bar{J}_0, T_0 = L_0 - \frac{1}{2}J_0, \bar{T}_0 = \bar{L}_0 - \frac{1}{2}\bar{J}_0$  commuting linear operators, self-adjoint, diagonalisable with  $T_0 \geq 0, \bar{T}_0 \geq 0$
- $\text{spec}(J_0), \text{spec}(\bar{J}_0) \in \frac{c}{2} + \mathbb{Z}$  on  $\mathbb{H}^{\text{R}}$
- $\tilde{R}$  partition function with elliptic and modular properties

$$\begin{aligned} Z_{\tilde{R}}(\tau, z) &= \text{STr}_{\mathbb{H}^{\text{R}}} (y^{J_0} q^{L_0 - \frac{c}{24}} \bar{y}^{\bar{J}_0} \bar{q}^{\bar{L}_0 - \frac{\bar{c}}{24}}) \\ &= \text{Tr}_{\mathbb{H}^{\text{NS}}} ( (-1)^{J_0 - \bar{J}_0} y^{J_0 - \frac{c}{6}} q^{T_0} \bar{y}^{\bar{J}_0 - \frac{\bar{c}}{6}} \bar{q}^{\bar{T}_0} ) \\ &\quad q = e^{2\pi i \tau}, y = e^{2\pi i z}, \quad \tau, z \in \mathbb{C}, \text{Im}(\tau) > 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} Z_{\tilde{R}}(\tau, z + 1) &= Z_{\tilde{R}}(\tau, z) \implies \text{spec}(J_0 - \bar{J}_0) \in \mathbb{Z} \\ Z_{\tilde{R}}(\tau + 1, z) &= Z_{\tilde{R}}(\tau, z) \implies \text{spec}(T_0 - \bar{T}_0) \in \mathbb{Z} \end{aligned}$$

$$Z_{\tilde{R}}(\tau, z) = \exp \left( \frac{\pi i z^2 c}{3\tau} - \frac{\pi i \bar{z}^2 \bar{c}}{3\bar{\tau}} \right) Z_{\tilde{R}} \left( -\frac{1}{\tau}, \frac{z}{\tau} \right)$$

## 1.2 Conformal field theoretic elliptic genus

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{E}_{\text{CFT}}(\tau, z) &:= \text{Tr}_{\mathbb{H}^{\text{NS}}} \left( (-1)^{J_0 - \bar{J}_0} y^{J_0 - \frac{c}{6}} q^{T_0} \bar{q}^{\bar{T}_0} \right) && \text{Witten 1987} \\ &= \text{Tr}_{\ker \bar{T}_0} \left( (-1)^{J_0 - \bar{J}_0} y^{J_0 - \frac{c}{6}} q^{T_0} \right) \\ &= \text{Tr}_{\mathbb{H}_0^{\text{NS}}} \left( (-1)^{J_0 - \bar{J}_0} y^{J_0 - \frac{c}{6}} q^{T_0} \right), \quad \mathbb{H}_0^{\text{NS}} \hookrightarrow \ker \bar{T}_0, \text{ generic space of states}\end{aligned}$$

The conformal field theoretic elliptic genus is an invariant of  $N = (2, 2)$  SCFTs

A **K3 theory** is a 2d SCFT at central charge  $c = 6$  whose conformal field theoretic elliptic genus given by

$$\mathcal{E}_{\text{CFT}}(\tau, z) = 8 \left\{ \frac{\vartheta_2(\tau, z)^2}{\vartheta_2(\tau, 0)} + \frac{\vartheta_3(\tau, z)^2}{\vartheta_3(\tau, 0)} + \frac{\vartheta_4(\tau, z)^2}{\vartheta_4(\tau, 0)} \right\}$$

Eguchi, Ooguri, Taormina & Yang 1987

Non linear sigma models on K3 surfaces are examples of K3 theories

## 1.3 1/4 BPS states and Mathieu Moonshine

$$\mathcal{E}_{\text{CFT}}(\tau, z) = 20\chi_0^{\tilde{R}}(\tau, z) - 2\chi_{1/2}^{\tilde{R}}(\tau, z) + A(\tau)\tilde{\chi}^{\tilde{R}}(\tau, z) \quad \text{decomposition in } N=4 \text{ characters}$$

**1/4-BPS states in K3 theory:** states which saturate the BPS bound for half of the anti-holomorphic  $N = 4$  worldsheet supersymmetries and which are massive w.r.t. the holomorphic  $N = 4$  SCA

$$\mathcal{E}_{\text{CFT}}(\tau, z) = (\text{massless} + \text{massive})_{\text{left}} \times (\text{massless})_{\text{right}}$$

└──────────────────┘  
1/4-BPS states encoded in  $A(\tau)\tilde{\chi}^{\tilde{R}}(\tau, z)$

$$A(\tau) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n q^n$$

$n$	1	2	3	4	...
$A_n$	90	462	1540	4554	...

dimensions of representations of  $M_{24}$

Eguchi, Ooguri, Tachikawa (2010)

$\mathcal{H}^{\text{BPS}} := \bigoplus_{n=1}^{\infty} (H_n \otimes \mathcal{H}_n^{N=4})$ : space of 1/4-BPS states accounted for in  $\mathcal{E}(\tau, z)$

$\mathcal{H}^{\text{BPS}} \hookrightarrow \mathbb{H}_0^{\text{NS}}$  generic space of states of all K3 theories

$H_n$ : representation of the sporadic group  $M_{24}$  with  $\dim H_n = A_n < \infty, \forall n$  Gannon 2016

**MATHIEU MOONSHINE**

## 2. Generic and non generic K3 theories

NLSM on K3	pluses	minuses
Generic	*no cancellations in $\mathcal{E}_{\text{CFT}}$	no known theory explicitly
Non generic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>known explicit theories e.g. <math>\mathbb{Z}_2</math>-orbifold CFTs</li> <li>same spectrum of generic states for all <math>\mathbb{Z}_2</math>-orbifold CFTs</li> </ul>	cancellations in $\mathcal{E}_{\text{CFT}}$  *Wendland (2017); Song (2017)

In non-generic K3 theories:

$$\mathcal{H}^{\text{BPS}} := \bigoplus_{n=1}^{\infty} (H_n \otimes \mathcal{H}_n^{N=4}) \subsetneq \hat{\mathcal{H}}^{\text{BPS}} = \bigoplus_{n=1}^{\infty} (\hat{H}_n \otimes \mathcal{H}_n^{N=4})$$

space of all 1/4-BPS states in a K3 theory

$$\dim H_n = A_n, \quad \dim \hat{H}_n = \hat{A}_n$$

$n$	1	2	3	4	...
$A_n$	90	462	1540	4554	...
$\hat{A}_n$	102	466	1944	4614	...

$\mathbb{Z}_2$ -orbifold CFTs

$$\hat{\mathcal{H}}^{\text{BPS}} := \mathcal{H}^{\text{BPS}} \oplus \mathcal{H}^+, \quad \mathcal{H}^+ := \bigoplus_{n=1}^{\infty} (H_n^+ \otimes \mathcal{H}_n^{N=4})$$

driver of cancellations?

### 3.1 $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -orbifold SCFTs: N=4 free field representation

$\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{T}/\mathbb{Z}_2$ ,  $\mathcal{T}$  a toroidal SCFT at  $c = \bar{c} = 6$

Construction induced by the Kummer construction of K3 surfaces:

$$T_\Lambda/\mathbb{Z}_2, \quad T_\Lambda = \mathbb{C}^2/\Lambda, \quad \Lambda \subset \mathbb{C}^2$$

2 Dirac fermions and conjugates:  $\chi_\pm^a$ ,  $a \in \{1, 2\}$

bosonic superpartners:  $j_\pm^a$ ,  $a \in \{1, 2\}$

N=4, C=6 FREE FIELD REPRESENTATION

$$J^3 = \frac{1}{2} \{ : \chi_+^1 \chi_-^1 : + : \chi_+^2 \chi_-^2 : \}$$

$$J^\pm = \pm : \chi_\pm^1 \chi_\pm^2 :$$

$$G^\pm = \sqrt{2} \{ : \chi_\pm^1 j_\mp^1 : + : \chi_\pm^2 j_\mp^2 : \}$$

$$G'^\pm = \sqrt{2} \{ : \chi_\mp^1 j_\mp^2 : - : \chi_\mp^2 j_\mp^1 : \}$$

$$T = \sum_{a=1}^2 : j_+^a j_-^a : + \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \sum_{a=1}^2 : \partial \chi_+^a \chi_-^a : + : \partial \chi_-^a \chi_+^a : \right\}$$

## 3.2 $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -orbifold SCFTs: generating functions for BPS states

spectral-flow:  $\mathcal{E}^{\text{NS}}(\tau, z) = -q^{1/4} y \mathcal{E}_{\text{CFT}}(\tau, z + \frac{\tau+1}{2})$

partition function in NS sector

1 <span style="border: 1px solid red; display: inline-block; width: 40px; height: 40px; vertical-align: middle;"></span>	-1 <span style="border: 1px solid red; display: inline-block; width: 40px; height: 40px; vertical-align: middle;"></span>	1 <span style="border: 1px solid blue; display: inline-block; width: 40px; height: 40px; vertical-align: middle;"></span>	-1 <span style="border: 1px solid blue; display: inline-block; width: 40px; height: 40px; vertical-align: middle;"></span>
1	1	-1	-1
untwisted		twisted	

consider **generic** states: zero momentum and winding

$$\mathcal{Z}^{\text{NS, generic}}(z, \bar{z} = -\frac{\bar{\tau}+1}{2}) = \mathcal{E}^{\text{NS}}(\tau, z) \bar{q}^{-1/4}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{E}^{\text{NS}}(\tau, z) &= 2U_{\ell=1/2}(\tau, z) - U_{\ell=0}(\tau, z) - 16T_{\ell=0}(\tau, z) \\ &= 2\chi_0^{\text{NS}}(\tau, z) - 20\chi_{1/2}^{\text{NS}}(\tau, z) - \underbrace{(-2B(\tau) + C(\tau) + 16D(\tau))}_{=A(\tau) := \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n q^n} \tilde{\chi}^{\text{NS}}(\tau, z) \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathcal{H}^{\text{BPS}} := \bigoplus_{n=1}^{\infty} (H_n \otimes \mathcal{H}_n^{N=4}) \hookrightarrow \mathbb{H}_0^{\text{NS}}$$



### 3.3 $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -orbifold SCFTs: 1/4 BPS states

Ansatz:  $\hat{\mathcal{H}}^{\text{BPS}} = \mathcal{H}^{\text{BPS}} \oplus \mathcal{H}^+ = \mathcal{H}^\perp \oplus \mathcal{H}^{\text{rest}} \oplus \mathcal{H}^+$  (space of all 1/4-BPS)

$$\mathcal{H}^\perp = \bigoplus_{n=1}^{\infty} (H_n^\perp \otimes \mathcal{H}_n^{N=4}), \quad \mathcal{H}^{\text{rest}} = \bigoplus_{n=1}^{\infty} (H_n^{\text{rest}} \otimes \mathcal{H}_n^{N=4})$$

$$H_n \cong H_n^\perp \oplus H_n^{\text{rest}}$$

$$\mathcal{H}^+ = \bigoplus_{n=1}^{\infty} (H_n^+ \otimes \mathcal{H}_n^{N=4})$$

$$\dim H_n^\perp = 15D_n, \quad D_n^{\text{diag}} = D_n^{\text{rest}} + D_n^+$$

$$\dim H_n^{\text{rest}} = C_n + \underbrace{(D_n - 2B_n)}_{D_n^{\text{rest}} \geq 0}$$

$$\dim H_n^+ = 2B_n + \underbrace{2B_n}_{D_n^+}$$

level 1

level 2

$$\dim H_1^\perp = 15D_1 = 15 \times 6 = 90 = 45 + 45$$

$$\dim H_1^{\text{rest}} = C_1 + (D_1^{\text{diag}} - 2B_1) = 0 + (6 - 2 \times 3) = 0$$

$$\dim H_1^+ = 2B_1 + 2B_1 = 2 \times 3 + 2 \times 3 = 12$$

$$\dim H_2^\perp = 15D_2 = 15 \times 28 = 420$$

$$\dim H_2^{\text{rest}} = C_2 + (D_2^{\text{diag}} - 2B_2) = 16 + (28 - 2 \times 1) = 42$$

$$\dim H_2^+ = 2B_2 + 2B_2 = 2 \times 1 + 2 \times 1 = 4$$

### 3.4 $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -orbifold SCFTs: 1/4-BPS states at level $n = 1$

look for a 45-dimensional vector space of states  $V_{45}^{\text{CFT}}$  that are generic to all  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -orbifold CFTs on K3 and carry an action of  $G_{\text{octad}} := \mathbb{Z}_2^4 \rtimes A_8 \subset M_{24}$   
(symmetry surfing)

Taormina & Wendland (2012,...)

$$|\alpha_{\text{diag}}\rangle := \frac{1}{4} \sum_{\beta \in \mathbb{F}_2^4} |\alpha_\beta\rangle \text{ is invariant under } G_{\text{octad}}$$

$$\mathcal{F}^{\text{diag}}: \text{ Fock space built on } |\alpha_{\text{diag}}\rangle$$

$\mathcal{A}$ : orthogonal complement of  $\mathcal{F}^{\text{diag}}$  in the space of twisted ground states

$$V_{45}^{\text{CFT}} := \text{span}_{\mathbb{C}}\{WA : W \in \{\chi_+^1 j_+^2 + \chi_+^2 j_+^1, \chi_+^1 j_+^1, \chi_+^2 j_+^2\}, A \in \mathcal{A}\}$$

$$V_{45}^{\text{CFT}} = W \otimes \mathcal{A} = \mathbf{3} \otimes \mathbf{15}, \mathbf{3} \text{ of } SO(3) \text{ and } \mathbf{15} \text{ of } \text{Aff}(\mathbb{F}_2^4)$$

The states in  $V_{45}^{\text{CFT}}$  and  $\overline{V_{45}^{\text{CFT}}}$  are generic and both enjoy an action of  $G_{\text{octad}}$

$$V_{45}^{\text{CFT}} \oplus \overline{V_{45}^{\text{CFT}}} := H_1^\perp$$

Taormina, Wendland (2015)  
Margolin (1993)

If deformation by marginal operator  $T_{\text{diag}}$ , all BPS states in  $\mathcal{F}^{\text{diag}}$  lift off  
Keller & Zadeh 2019

### 3.5 $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -orbifold SCFTs: action of octad group at levels $n > 1$

Ansatz:  $\widehat{\mathcal{H}}^{\text{BPS}} = \mathcal{H}^\perp \oplus \mathcal{H}^{\text{rest}} \oplus \mathcal{H}^+$  (space of all 1/4-BPS)

$$\mathcal{H}^{\text{BPS}} \hookrightarrow \mathbb{H}_0^{\text{NS}}$$

states remain 1/4-BPS against marginal deformation  $T_{\text{diag}}$  built on  $|\alpha_{\text{diag}}\rangle$

1.  $G_{\text{octad}}$  acts on 45-dim subspace  $\mathcal{H}^\perp$  at level  $n = 1$

2.  $G_{\text{octad}}$  acts on  $\mathcal{H}^\perp \oplus \mathcal{H}^{\text{rest}}$  at all levels Gaberdiel, Keller, Paul 2017

$$H_n \cong H_n^\perp \oplus H_n^{\text{rest}}, \quad n \in \mathbb{N}, n > 0 \text{ as representations of } G_{\text{octad}} \text{ and } \overline{J}_0$$

3. under deformations to generic  $K3$  theories, all 1/4 BPS states accounted for by  $U_{\ell=\frac{1}{2}}$  are lifted ( $2B_n$ ) Wendland 2017

Which 1/4 BPS states partner with the states accounted for by  $U_{\ell=\frac{1}{2}}$  to form long representations upon deformation?

### 3.6 $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -orbifold SCFTs: searching for generic space of states

2 Dirac fermions and conjugates:  $\chi_{\pm}^a$ ,  $a \in \{1, 2\}$

bosonic superpartners:  $j_{\pm}^a$ ,  $a \in \{1, 2\}$

**doublets of  
geometric  $SU(2)$**

**$N=4$ ,  $C=6$  FREE FIELD REPRESENTATION**

$$J^3 = \frac{1}{2} \{ : \chi_+^1 \chi_-^1 : + : \chi_+^2 \chi_-^2 : \}$$

$$J^{\pm} = \pm : \chi_{\pm}^1 \chi_{\pm}^2 :$$

$$G^{\pm} = \sqrt{2} \{ : \chi_{\pm}^1 j_{\mp}^1 : + : \chi_{\pm}^2 j_{\mp}^2 : \}$$

$$G'^{\pm} = \sqrt{2} \{ : \chi_{\mp}^1 j_{\mp}^2 : - : \chi_{\mp}^2 j_{\mp}^1 : \}$$

$$T = \sum_{a=1}^2 : j_+^a j_-^a : + \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \sum_{a=1}^2 : \partial \chi_+^a \chi_-^a : + : \partial \chi_-^a \chi_+^a : \right\}$$

The geometric  $SU(2)$  action commutes with the  $N = 4$  SCA action

### 3.7 $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -orbifold SCFTs: excess states $\mathcal{H}^+$ and $SU(2)$ geometric

Ansatz:  $\hat{\mathcal{H}}^{\text{BPS}} = \mathcal{H}^\perp \oplus \mathcal{H}^{\text{rest}} \oplus \mathcal{H}^+$  (space of all 1/4-BPS)

level $n$	1	2	3	4	
$B_n$	3, $3$	1, $1$	18, $3 5^3$	15, $1 3^3 5$	untwisted sector ( $U_{\ell=1/2}$ )
$C_n$	0	16, $3^2 5^2$	8, $1^2 3^2$	72, $1^2 3^4 5^6 7^4$	untwisted sector ( $U_{\ell=0}$ )
$D_n$	6, $3^2$	28, $1^2 3^2 5^4$	98, $1^2 3^6 3^2 5^6 7^6$	282, $1^6 1^2 3^8 3^6 5^{16} 5^2 7^{10} 9^8$	one twisted sector ( $T_{\ell=0}$ )
$A_n$	90	462	1540	4554	$\dim H_n(\mathcal{H}^{\text{BPS}})$
$(D_n - 2B_n) + C_n$	0	42	70	324	$\dim H_n^{\text{rest}}(\mathcal{H}^{\text{rest}})$
$15D_n$	90	420	1470	4230	$\dim H_n^\perp(\mathcal{H}^\perp)$
$2B_n + 2B_n$	6+6	2+2	36+36	30+30	$\dim H_n^+(\mathcal{H}^+)$

*Data on the number of 1/4-BPS states emerging from different sectors of  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -orbifolds CFTs on K3*

**postulate:** *all untwisted states accounted for by  $U_{\ell=0} (C_n \forall n)$  are generic but no means to prove this so far through the  $SU(2)_{\text{geom}}$  action*

# 4.1 Refined Elliptic Genera

CFT	GEOMETRIC
2d SCFT with space of states $\mathbb{H}$	$X$ compact Calabi-Yau $D$ -fold
$\mathcal{E}_{\text{CFT}}(\tau, z) = \text{STr}_{\ker \bar{T}_0} (y^{J_0 - \frac{c}{6}} q^{T_0})$ $= \text{STr}_{\mathbb{H}_0^{\text{NS}}} (y^{J_0 - \frac{c}{6}} q^{T_0})$	$\mathcal{E}(X; \tau, z) = y^{-\frac{D}{2}} \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-D}^D \chi(\mathcal{T}_{\ell, m}) (-y)^m q^{\ell}$ <p>COMPLEX ELLIPTIC GENUS</p> <p>Hirzebruch 1988; Witten 1988</p>
$\mathcal{E}_{\text{CFT}}^{\text{Hodge}}(\tau, z, w) = \text{STr}_{\ker \bar{T}_0} (y^{J_0 - \frac{c}{6}} v^{\bar{J}_0 - \frac{c}{6}} q^{T_0})$ $v = e^{2\pi i w}, w \in \mathbb{C}$	$\mathcal{E}^{\text{Hodge}}(X; \tau, z, w)$ $= (vy)^{-\frac{D}{2}} \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-D}^D \chi^v(\mathcal{T}_{\ell, m}) (-y)^m q^{\ell},$ $\chi^v(\mathcal{T}_{\ell, m}) := \sum_{j=0}^D (-v)^j \dim H^j(X, \mathcal{T}_{\ell, m})$ <p>HODGE ELLIPTIC GENUS</p> <p>Kachru &amp; Tripathi 2016</p>
$\mathcal{E}_{\text{CFT}}^{\text{Hodge}, 0}(\tau, z, w) = \text{STr}_{\mathbb{H}_0^{\text{NS}}} (y^{J_0 - \frac{c}{6}} v^{\bar{J}_0 - \frac{c}{6}} q^{T_0})$	$\mathcal{E}^{\text{Hodge}, ch}(X; \tau, z, w)$ $= (vy)^{-\frac{D}{2}} \sum_{j=0}^D (-v)^j \text{Tr}_{H^j(X, \Omega_X^{\text{ch}})} ((-y)^{J_0} q^{T_0})$ <p><math>\Omega_X^{\text{ch}}</math>: chiral de Rham complex, Malikov et al 1999</p> <p>CHIRAL HODGE ELLIPTIC GENUS</p>
GENERIC CFT HODGE ELLIPTIC GENUS	<p>Wendland 2017; Song 2017</p>

## 4.2 Refined Elliptic Genera - K3 Theories

Assumption: the generic chiral algebra for all K3 theories is N=4 at c=6

Let  $\hat{X}$  be a K3 surface. Then, [Wendland 2017](#)

1.  $\mathcal{E}^{\text{Hodge, ch}}(\hat{X}; \tau, z, w)$  is independent of the complex structure
2.  $\mathcal{E}_{\text{CFT}}^{\text{Hodge}, 0}(z, \tau, w) \neq \mathcal{E}_{\text{CFT}}^{\text{Hodge}}(z, \tau, w)$
3.  $\mathcal{E}_{\text{CFT}}^{\text{Hodge}, 0}(z, \tau, w) \neq \mathcal{E}^{\text{Hodge}}(\hat{X}; z, \tau, w)$
4.  $\mathcal{E}_{\text{CFT}}^{\text{Hodge}, 0}(z, \tau, w) = \mathcal{E}^{\text{Hodge, ch}}(\hat{X}; \tau, z, w)$  (see also [Kapustin 2005](#), [Song 2016](#))

existence of a space of (Ramond ground) states common to all K3 theories that is protected by  $\mathcal{E}_{\text{CFT}}^{\text{Hodge}, 0}(z, \tau, w)$ ; this space, when spectral flowed, yields the generic space of states  $\mathbb{H}_0^{\text{NS}}$  which is modelled by  $H^*(\hat{X}, \Omega_{\hat{X}}^{\text{ch}})$

# Wrap up

- The conformal field theoretic elliptic genus  $\mathcal{E}_{\text{CFT}}(\tau, z)$  is an invariant of  $N = (2, 2)$  SCFTs that counts the BPS states in any such theory with signs, according to their bosonic or fermionic nature.

$$\mathcal{E}_{\text{CFT}}(\tau, z) = 20\chi_0^{\tilde{\text{R}}}(\tau, z) - 2\chi_{1/2}^{\tilde{\text{R}}}(\tau, z) + A(\tau)\tilde{\chi}^{\tilde{\text{R}}}(\tau, z)$$

- $\mathcal{E}_{\text{CFT}}$  is governed by an action of  $M_{24}$
- $M_{24}$  acts on a generic space of states, common to all K3 theories
- the exact nature of this generic space of states is not known, and we have approached it from the perspective of  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -orbifold CFTs. We have provided a strategy to earmark 1/4 BPS states that are not protected under a deformation by the most symmetric marginal operator  $T_{\text{diag}}$ . This strategy uses a global  $SU(2)_{\text{geom}} \subset SO(4)[N = 4]$  symmetry as guiding principle.
- the strategy provides a clear proposal for which states should lift off the BPS bound under deformation at level 2, but there remains some ambiguity beyond level 2. At level 1, our strategy has been confirmed by explicit deformation calculations (Keller & Zadeh 2019)
- clearly one needs a cleaner and more powerful approach, which involves the sheaf cohomology of the chiral de Rham complex  $H^*(\hat{X}, \Omega_{\hat{X}}^{\text{ch}})$ ,  $\hat{X}$  a K3 surface.



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY SAMSON!



LE CHAT (GELUCK)