



Mathematical  
Institute

# Higgs bundles and mirror symmetry 2

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Oxford  
Mathematics



DUALITY

- Higgs bundle fibration  $p : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$
- generic fibre abelian variety  $A$
- = complex torus  $+$  positive line bundle  $H$
- SYZ mirror symmetry  $\sim$  replace  $A$  by its dual  $A^\vee$

= moduli space of degree zero holomorphic line bundles on  $A$

- $x \in A, L_x(y) = x + y$
- translation action  $L_x : A \rightarrow A$
- $L_x^* H \otimes H^{-1}$  degree zero line bundle
- $A \mapsto A^\vee$  surjective, finite kernel
- $A = \text{Jac}(S)$  isomorphism ( $A$  principally polarized)



- spectral curve  $\pi : S \rightarrow \Sigma$
- $\deg \pi_* L = \deg V = 0$  if  $L = U \otimes \pi^* K^{(n-1)/2}$ ,  $\deg U = 0$
- $\Lambda^n V$  trivial if  $\text{Nm}(U) = 0$
- $\text{Jac}(S) \sim$  linear equivalence of divisors  

$$\text{Nm}(x_1 + \dots + x_k) = \pi(x_1) + \dots + \pi(x_k)$$

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$$\text{Nm}(x_1 + \dots + x_k) = \pi(x_1) + \dots + \pi(x_k)$$
- $\ker \text{Nm} \stackrel{\text{defn}}{=} P(S, \Sigma) = \text{Prym variety}$

# THE GROUP $SU(n)$

- $U \in \mathcal{P}(S, \Sigma) \Rightarrow \Lambda^n V$  trivial
- structure group  $SU(n)$
- $\Phi \in H^0(\Sigma, \mathfrak{sl}(n) \otimes K) \Rightarrow a_1 = 0 \in H^0(\Sigma, K)$
- generic fibre for  $SU(n)$  Higgs bundles  $\cong$  Prym variety

- $\text{Nm} : \text{Jac}(S) \rightarrow \text{Jac}(\Sigma)$  is dual to  $\pi^* : \text{Jac}(\Sigma) \rightarrow \text{Jac}(S)$
- so  $P(S, \Sigma)^\vee \cong \text{Jac}(S) / \pi^* \text{Jac}(\Sigma)$

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- so  $P(S, \Sigma)^\vee \cong \text{Jac}(S) / \pi^* \text{Jac}(\Sigma)$
- $\text{Jac}(S) / \pi^* \text{Jac}(\Sigma) \cong P(S, \Sigma) / (P(S, \Sigma) \cap \pi^* \text{Jac}(\Sigma))$
- $\text{Nm} \pi^* x = nx \Rightarrow$

$$P(S, \Sigma)^\vee \cong P(S, \Sigma) / \pi^* H^1(\Sigma, \mathbf{Z}_n)$$

THE GROUP  $Sp(m)$

- $E$  rank  $2m$  symplectic vector bundle
- $\Phi \in H^0(\Sigma, \mathfrak{g} \otimes K) = H^0(\Sigma, S^2 E \otimes K)$
- eigenvalues  $\pm \lambda_i$
- spectral curve  $S \subset |K|$  :  

$$0 = \det(x - \Phi) = x^{2m} + a_2 x^{2m-2} + \cdots + a_{2m}$$
- involution  $\sigma(x) = -x$



- $\pi : S \rightarrow \Sigma$
- $E = \pi_* L$
- $x : L \rightarrow L \otimes \pi^* K$  and  $\Phi = \pi_* x$
- .... where  $L = U \pi^* K^{m-1/2}$  and  $\sigma^* U \cong U^*$

- $p : S \rightarrow \bar{S} = S/\sigma$
- $\sigma^*U \cong U^* \Leftrightarrow U \in \mathbf{P}(S, \bar{S})$
- abelian variety = Prym  $\mathbf{P}(S, \bar{S})$
- dual  $\mathbf{P}(S, \bar{S})^\vee \cong \mathbf{P}(S, \bar{S})/p^*H^1(\bar{S}, \mathbf{Z}_2)$

LANGLANDS DUALITY

# Mirror symmetry, Langlands duality, and the Hitchin system

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**Abstract.** Among the major mathematical approaches to mirror symmetry are those of Batyrev-Borisov and Strominger-Yau-Zaslow (SYZ). The first is explicit and amenable to computation but is not clearly related to the physical motivation; the second is the opposite. Furthermore, it is far from obvious that mirror partners in one sense will also be mirror partners in the other. This paper concerns a class of examples that can be shown to satisfy

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# Electric-Magnetic Duality And The Geometric Langlands Program

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- $\mathcal{M}(G)$  Higgs bundle moduli space
- hyperkähler
- holomorphic Lagrangian fibration
- ....its mirror is  $\mathcal{M}({}^L G)$  where  ${}^L G$  is the Langlands dual group

R.Donagi & T.Pantev, *Langlands duality for Hitchin systems*,  
Invent. math. **189** (2012), 653–735.

- $G$  and  ${}^L G$  are Langlands dual groups if..
- ... their root systems are dual
- roots  $\leftrightarrow$  coroots, characters  $\leftrightarrow$  1-parameter subgroups
- ${}^L U(n) = U(n)$   
 ${}^L SU(n) = PSU(n) = SU(n)/\mathbf{Z}_n$   
 ${}^L Sp(m) = SO(2m + 1)$

- ${}^L U(n) = U(n)$ :  $\mathrm{Jac}(S)^\vee \cong \mathrm{Jac}(S)$



- $L_{U(n)} = U(n)$ :  $\text{Jac}(S)^\vee \cong \text{Jac}(S)$

- $L_{SU(n)} = PSU(n) = SU(n)/\mathbf{Z}_n$

- $\mathbf{Z}_n$  action  $(V, \Phi) \mapsto (V \otimes L, \Phi)$  where  $L^n$  is trivial

$\mathbf{Z}_n$  quotient of  $SU(n)$ -moduli space,  $PSU(n)$ -Higgs bundles

- $P(S, \Sigma)^\vee \cong P(S, \Sigma)/\pi^* H^1(\Sigma, \mathbf{Z}_n)$

$Sp(2m, \mathbb{C})$  AND  $SO(2m+1, \mathbb{C})$

## $Sp(2m, \mathbb{C})$

- $E$  rank  $2m$  symplectic vector bundle
- $\Phi \in H^0(\Sigma, \mathfrak{g} \otimes K) = H^0(\Sigma, S^2 E \otimes K)$
- eigenvalues  $\pm \lambda_i$
- spectral curve  $S \subset |K|$  :
$$0 = \det(x - \Phi) = x^{2m} + a_2 x^{2m-2} + \cdots + a_{2m}$$
- involution  $\sigma(x) = -x$

$$SO(2m + 1, \mathbb{C})$$

- $V$  rank  $(2m + 1)$  orthogonal vector bundle
- $\Phi \in H^0(\Sigma, \mathfrak{g} \otimes K) = H^0(\Sigma, \Lambda^2 V \otimes K)$
- eigenvalues  $0 \pm \lambda_i$

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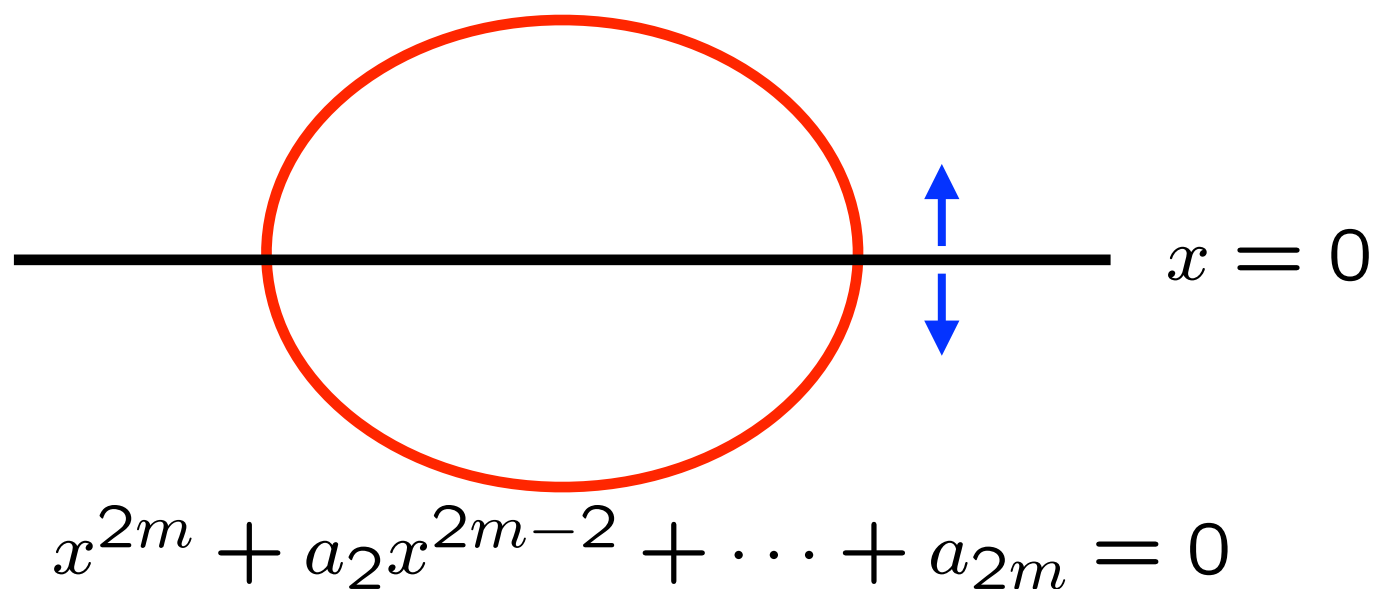
- eigenvalues  $0 \pm \lambda_i$

- kernel  $\sim \Phi^m \in \Lambda^{2m} V \otimes K^m \cong V \otimes K^m$

- reducible spectral curve

$$0 = \det(x - \Phi) = x(x^{2m} + a_2 x^{2m-2} + \cdots + a_{2m})$$

- $V = \pi_* L$  where ...
- on  $x^{2m} + a_2 x^{2m-2} + \dots + a_{2m} = 0$   
 $L = U\pi^* K^m$  and  $U \in P(S, \bar{S})$
- on  $x = 0 \cong \Sigma$ ,  $L = K^m$



- $x = 0$  fixed point set of  $\sigma$
- $\sigma^*U \cong U^* \Rightarrow$  trivialization of  $U^2$  on  $x = 0$
- $K^m \cong UK^m \Rightarrow \pm 1$  choice

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- $x = 0 \Leftrightarrow a_{2m}(z) = 0$ :  $4m(g - 1)$  points
- $2^{4m(g-1)}$  covering of  $P(S, \bar{S})$



- overall  $\pm 1$

+

$SO(2m + 1)$ -bundle spin/non-spin

- $2^{4m(g-1)-2}$  covering of  $P(S, \bar{S})$

- $= P(S, \bar{S}) / p^* H^1(\bar{S}, \mathbf{Z}_2)$

$=$  dual of  $P(S, \bar{S})$

BRANES

- symplectic geometry

A-brane = Lagrangian submanifold + flat vector bundle

- holomorphic geometry

B-brane = complex submanifold + holomorphic bundle

- ... or generalizations, sheaves etc.

# SYZ MIRROR SYMMETRY

- Calabi-Yau manifold  $M^n$ :  $\omega$  symplectic form,  
 $\Omega$  = real part of a holomorphic  $n$ -form
  - special Lagrangian fibration:  $p : M \rightarrow B$   
( $\omega, \Omega$  vanish on fibres)
  - fibres are tori  $T_b$
- mirror = dual fibration, fibre over  $b$  = moduli space of flat  $U(1)$ -bundles over  $T_b$

- $L \subset T_x M$  Lagrangian subspace
- suppose  $T_x L = V \oplus H \subset T_F M \oplus p^* T B$
- Lagrangian  $\Rightarrow H = V^0$
- $V^0 \subset T_F^* \cong T B$  then  $V^0 \oplus iV^0$  complex

- hyperkähler: complex structures  $I, J, K$
- symplectic forms  $\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_3$
- BAA-brane = holomorphic Lagrangian submanifold wrt  $I$  + flat connection
- BBB-brane = hyperkähler submanifold + hyperholomorphic bundle

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mirror symmetry is supposed to interchange these

# BBB-BRANES

- hyperkähler submanifold
- strong condition
- Kähler  $\Rightarrow$  second fundamental form  $S$  complex linear
$$S(IX, JY) = IS(X, JY) = IJS(X, Y) = JIS(X, Y) = 0$$
- $\Rightarrow$  totally geodesic



# EXAMPLES

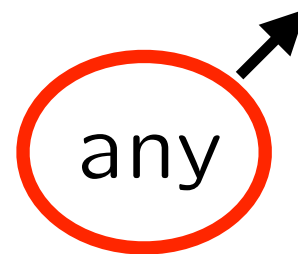
- points, whole manifold
- Higgs bundles for subgroup  $H \subset G$
- pull-back of Higgs bundles from a map  $f : \Sigma \rightarrow C$
- fixed point set of a triholomorphic automorphism of  $\mathcal{M}$   
e.g.
  - i) induced action of finite group holomorphic action on  $\Sigma$
  - ii)  $V \mapsto V \otimes L$  where  $L^n$  trivial.

## BAA BRANES

- $\mathcal{N} \subset \mathcal{M} =$  moduli space of stable bundles  $(V, 0)$
- torus fibres of the integrable system
- $T^*\mathcal{N} \subset \mathcal{M}$  open embedding ....
- .... closure of conormal bundle of submanifold of  $\mathcal{N}$

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# SYZ MIRROR SYMMETRY

- $p : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$  integrable system

$L \subset \mathcal{M}$  complex Lagrangian submanifold

- $p : L \rightarrow p(L)$  suppose generically  $p(L) \subset \mathcal{B}^{\text{reg}}$

$L \cap A \subset A$  compact subvariety of abelian variety

- **Define**  $(L \cap A)^0 \subset A^\vee =$  line bundles on  $A$  trivial on  $L \cap A$

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- .... = support of a BBB-brane?

## EXAMPLE

- $L =$  a single fibre  $A$
- $p(L)$  a point  $a \in \mathcal{B}$
- $(L \cap A) = A \Rightarrow (L \cap A)^0 = 0$
- $\Rightarrow$  BBB-brane is a single point

## EXAMPLE

- $L =$  (closure of) a cotangent fibre of  $T^*\mathcal{N}$
- $(L \cap A)$  finite set  $\Rightarrow (L \cap A)^0 = A^\vee$
- $\Rightarrow$  BBB-brane is the whole manifold
- How general is this?

# $C^*$ -INVARIANT LAGRANGIANS



- $\mathbb{C}^*$ -action  $(V, \Phi) \mapsto (V, \lambda\Phi)$   
generated by holomorphic vector field  $X$
- on  $T^*\mathcal{N}$  scales cotangent fibres
- in general preserves conormal bundles
- moves generic fibres ( $0 \in \mathcal{B}$  only fixed point)

- Suppose  $L$  is a  $\mathbf{C}^*$ -invariant complex Lagrangian
- $i_X(\omega_2 + i\omega_3) = i_X\omega$  vanishes on  $L$
- $i_X\omega$  nonzero on  $A$   
(variation of Lagrangian  $A$  in the direction  $X$ )
- $i_X\omega$  holomorphic 1-form on  $A$  which vanishes on  $L \cap A$

- Universal property: a map  $M \rightarrow A$  factors through the Albanese variety  $M \rightarrow \text{Alb}(M) \rightarrow A$
- $\text{Alb}(M)$  = abelian variety defined by periods of 1-forms  
(=  $\text{Jac}(C)$  for a curve)

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- $\text{Alb}(M)$  = abelian variety defined by periods of 1-forms  
(=  $\text{Jac}(C)$  for a curve)
- $i_X \omega|_A$  holomorphic 1-form on  $A$  which vanishes on  $L \cap A$
- $\Rightarrow$  vanishes on  $B = \text{image of } \text{Alb}(L \cap A)$ .

- $H_1(B, \mathbb{Q}) \subset H_1(A, \mathbb{Q})$
- extend a symplectic basis for  $H_1(B, \mathbb{Q})$  to  $H_1(A, \mathbb{Q})$
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- $\Rightarrow B$  contained in zero set of flat coordinates  $z_1, \dots, z_k$

$$k = \dim B$$

- rational coefficients  $\Rightarrow$  nearby varieties  $B$  in same zero set

- $k$  constraints  $\Rightarrow \dim p(L) \leq \dim \mathcal{M}/2 - k$
- $L \cap A \subset B \Rightarrow \dim(L \cap A) \leq k$

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- $L$  Lagrangian  $\Rightarrow$

$$\dim \mathcal{M}/2 = \dim L = \dim(L \cap A) + \dim p(L) \leq k + (\dim \mathcal{M}/2 - k)$$



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$$\dim \mathcal{M}/2 = \dim L = \dim(L \cap A) + \dim p(L) \leq k + (\dim \mathcal{M}/2 - k)$$
- $\Rightarrow \dim(L \cap A) = \dim B$   
 $\Rightarrow$  each component of  $L \cap A$  is an abelian subvariety

- $L$  is fibred over an affine linear subspace of  $\mathcal{B}$  ...  
... by a disjoint union of translates of an abelian subvariety
- SYZ mirror is fibred by abelian subvarieties  $B^0$  over  $p(L)$

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- holomorphic symplectic, integrable system, ....
- but is it a hyperkähler submanifold?

# ABELIAN SUBVARIETIES

## EXAMPLE

- $B = \pi^* \text{Jac}(\Sigma) \subset \text{Jac}(S)$
- $\theta \in H^0(S, K)$  annihilates  $B$  if  $a_1 = 0$   
$$\det(x - \Phi) = x^n + a_1 x^{n-1} + \dots + a_n$$
- Lagrangian  $L = \text{Jac}(\Sigma) \times H^0(\Sigma, K^2) \oplus \dots \oplus H^0(\Sigma, K^n)$
- $B^0 = \text{P}(S, \Sigma) \Rightarrow$  mirror is  $SU(n)$  moduli space  
= hyperkähler submanifold

- $B \subset \text{Jac}(S)$  abelian subvariety
- $S \subset \text{Jac}(S), f : S \rightarrow \text{Jac}(S)/B$
- image curve,  $f$  factors through normalization  $C$  and  $\text{Alb}(C)$
- $f : S \rightarrow C$

- $i_X \omega$  vanishes on  $B$
- $\Rightarrow i_X \omega$  pulled back from  $A/B$
- $\Rightarrow \theta = f^* \varphi$  for a 1-form  $\varphi$  on  $C$



## EXAMPLE $SU(2)$

- spectral curve  $x^2 + a_2 = 0$ , involution  $x \mapsto -x$
- $\pi^* \text{Jac}(\Sigma) \subset B \subset \text{Jac}(S)$ , involution on  $\text{Jac}(S)/B$   
 $\Rightarrow$  involution on  $C$   
 $\Rightarrow C$  is a spectral curve for a curve  $\bar{\Sigma}$ ,  $h : \Sigma \rightarrow \bar{\Sigma}$
- pull-back gives a hyperkähler submanifold.

# CONCLUSIONS

- “most”  $C^*$ -invariant Lagrangians meet a smooth fibre in dimension zero  
 $\Rightarrow$  support of mirror is whole moduli space

# CONCLUSIONS

- “most”  $\mathbb{C}^*$ -invariant Lagrangians meet a smooth fibre in dimension zero  
 $\Rightarrow$  support of mirror is whole moduli space
- ... but “many” hyperkähler submanifolds do not intersect the smooth fibres: if  $h : \Sigma \rightarrow \bar{\Sigma}$  is ramified then  $S$  is singular