

**SPRING SCHOOL ON SUPERSTRING THEORY
AND RELATED TOPICS**

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Topological strings and integrable hierarchies

PART I

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Please note: These are preliminary notes intended for internal distribution only.

TOPOLOGICAL STRINGS & INTEGRABLE HIERARCHIES

1. Introduction
2. Quick review of TFT in 2d
3. Integrability & topological strings in $d=1$
4. B-model & special geometry on CY 3-folds
5. Local B-model & asymptotic deformations of geometry: classical theory
6. Quantization of local B-model and integrability.
7. B-branes & topological strings in $d=1$ revisited.

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Integrable systems $\rightarrow$ origin in classical mechanics

- * a dynamical system is integrable if there are enough conserved quantities so as to solve the problem by quadratures

QFT / context: $F(t_i)$ generating functional of correlation functions
 Topological string t_i play the role of "evolution times"
 $F(t_i)$ governed by the set of equations of the hierarchy

interesting points:

- * encode deep symmetries of the model
- * allow to solve explicitly for generating functions

unified framework for looking at these models

{	topological strings in $d=1$	→
	" " on	
	noncompact CY's	

- * allow sometimes to incorporate quantum/stringy effects $\rightarrow$ exact results on g_s
- * philosophical attraction

from the integrable point of view

- ↗ solvability
- ↘ ability to go to all orders in g_s

② TFT in 2d: general aspects

characterized by a fermionic BRST charge Q
 nilpotent $Q^2 = 0$

and $T_{\mu\nu} = \{Q, b_{\mu\nu}\} \rightarrow$ guarantees, at least formally,
 metric independence of partition
 of course $[Q, S] = 0$ function & correlators of Q -invariant
 operators

③ topological observable $[Q, \mathcal{O}] = 0$ and $\mathcal{O} \neq Q\psi$

i.e. we study the cohomology of Q to find the relevant
 operators

This structure allows to consider families of TFT's:

we have $\{Q, G_\mu\} = P_\mu$ (*)

start with $[Q, \phi^{(0)}] = 0$ and construct

$$\phi_\mu^{(1)} = [G_\mu, \phi^{(0)}]$$

$$\phi_{\mu_1 \mu_2}^{(2)} = \{G_{\mu_1}, [G_{\mu_2}, \phi^{(0)}]\}$$

define the n -form $\phi^{(n)} = \frac{1}{n!} \phi_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_n} dx^{\mu_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{\mu_n}$

then (*) implies $d\phi^{(n)} = [Q, \phi^{(n)}]$

and we can define $W_\phi^\gamma = \int_\gamma \phi^{(1)}$, $W_\phi^\Sigma = \int_\Sigma \phi^{(2)}$

Q -invariant

therefore, if we consider $S \rightarrow S + \sum_n t_n \int_\Sigma \phi_n^{(2)} = S(t)$

in general there is a finite set of operators ϕ_n such that $[\mathcal{Q}, \phi_n] = 0$. These operators form a ring, since $\phi_i \phi_j$ is also $\mathcal{Q}$ -closed. Therefore,

$$\phi_i \phi_j = \sum_k c_{ij}^k \phi_k \quad c_{ij}^k \text{ structure constants of the ring}$$

We also define a "metric" γ_{ij} :

$$\text{2-point function } \langle \phi_i \phi_j \rangle_0 = \gamma_{ij} \quad \text{on the sphere}$$

analogy: cohomology ring of a manifold

so the 3-point function on the sphere is γ_{ijk} :

$$\langle \phi_i \phi_j \phi_k \rangle_0 = \sum_k c_{ij}^l \underbrace{\langle \phi_l \phi_k \rangle_0}_{\gamma_{lk}} \equiv c_{ijk}$$

We define the perturbed 3-point function as:

$$c_{ijk}(t) = \langle \phi_i \phi_j \phi_k \cdot e^{\sum t_n \int_{\Sigma_0} \phi_n^{(2)}} \rangle$$

this is one of the quantities we are interested in & we will see how to compute it in some cases

we get a perturbed TFT, ϕ_n a set of observables
 then do we construct TFT in 2d?

Twist of $N=2$ SUSY (Witten) of 2d Euclidean QFT

SUSY algebra: $\underbrace{Q_\alpha, \bar{Q}_\alpha}_{\text{doublet } SO(2)_R} \quad \alpha = +, - \quad \text{fermion doublet}$

Superspace: $\theta^\pm, \bar{\theta}^\pm, \bar{F}(x, \theta^\pm, \bar{\theta}^\pm)$ superfields
dimensional reduction of $N=1$ in 4d

$U(1)$ symmetries: $U(1)_L \quad U(1)_R$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \theta^+ \rightarrow e^{-i\alpha} \theta^+ \\ \bar{\theta}^+ \rightarrow e^{i\alpha} \bar{\theta}^+ \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \theta^- \rightarrow e^{-i\alpha} \theta^- \\ \bar{\theta}^- \rightarrow e^{i\alpha} \bar{\theta}^- \end{array}$$

so we have two currents:

$J_V = \frac{1}{2}(J_L + J_R)$ vectorial, anomaly-free

$J_A = \frac{1}{2}(J_L - J_R)$ axial, may be anomalous

twist: the idea is to obtain scalar supercharges out of the fermionic supercharges $Q_\pm, \bar{Q}_\pm$ by redefining the Lorentz generators

$$SO(2)_E \rightarrow SO(2)'_E$$

"

A twist $\longrightarrow (SO(2)_E \times SO(2)_V)_{diag}$

B twist $\underline{\text{or}} (SO(2)_E \times SO(2)_A)_{diag}$

consistency of B-twist requires J_A to be anomaly-free

A-twist: $Q_-, \bar{Q}_+$ are scalars wrt $SO(2)'_E$

$$Q_A = Q_- + \bar{Q}_+ \quad \text{and} \quad Q_A^2 = 0 \quad (\text{in the absence of central charge})$$

B-twist: $\bar{Q}_+, \bar{Q}_-$ scalars

$$Q_B = \bar{Q}_+ + \bar{Q}_-$$

also, in the A-twist we can construct descent operators

$$G_2 = G_1 - iG_2 = Q_+$$

$$G_{\bar{2}} = G_1 + iG_2 = \bar{Q}_-$$

while in the B-twist $G_2 = Q_+, G_{\bar{2}} = Q_-$

Exercise: verify nilpotency of Q_A, B and $\{Q, G_\mu\} = P_\mu$
by using the susy algebra

hint / ref: Labastida / Uecker hep-th/9112051

A particular case of TFT in 2d occurs when the theory is conformal, so we start with an $N=2$ SCFT with algebra:

	L	R
	$T, \bar{J}_L, G^\pm$	$\bar{T}, \bar{J}_R, \bar{G}^\pm$
changes	$Q_+ = G_{-1/2}^-$	$\bar{Q}_- = \bar{G}_{-1/2}^-$
NS:	$\bar{Q}_+ = G_{-1/2}^+$	$Q_- = \bar{G}_{-1/2}^+$

in these theories are defined

four rings

chiral states $G_{-1/2}^+ |\Phi\rangle = 0$

(c, c)

antichiral "

$G_{-1/2}^- |\Phi\rangle = 0$

(a, a)

(a, c)

(c, a)

In this context, the twisting involves the redefinition:

$$T(z) \rightarrow T'(z) = T(z) + \frac{1}{2} \partial J$$

$$h \rightarrow h - \frac{1}{2} q = h'$$

$$G^\pm \begin{cases} Q(z) & h' = 1 \\ G(z) & h' = 2 \end{cases}$$

The A & the B twist are here

$$A: \begin{aligned} T &\rightarrow T + \frac{1}{2} \partial J \\ \bar{T} &\rightarrow \bar{T} + \frac{1}{2} \partial \bar{J} \end{aligned}$$

$$B: \begin{aligned} T &\rightarrow T + \frac{1}{2} \partial J \\ \bar{T} &\rightarrow \bar{T} - \frac{1}{2} \partial \bar{J} \end{aligned}$$

Since for chiral primaries $h = \frac{q}{2}$ we see that

A model: observables are (c, c) $(h', \bar{h}') = (0, 0)$

and correspond to marginal perturbations

B model: observables are (c, a)

We will focus on the B model in these lectures

For TCFT's the existence of a conformal symmetry previous to twisting gives further conditions on $C_{ijk}(t)$:

$$\frac{\partial C_{ijk}}{\partial t_l} = \frac{\partial C_{ijl}}{\partial t_k}$$

consequences:

1) locally $C_{ijk} = \frac{\partial^3 F_0(t)}{\partial t_i \partial t_j \partial t_k}$ $F_0(t)$ perturbed free energy at $g=0$

2) $\frac{\partial C_{ijk}}{\partial t_0} = 0$ but $= \frac{\partial C_{ij0}}{\partial t_k} = \frac{\partial \eta_{ij}}{\partial t_k}$

to comply to the identity operator

$\Rightarrow \eta_{ij}$ independent of t_k

$$F_0(t) = \left\langle \exp \sum_i t_i \int_{\Sigma_0} \phi^{(2)} \right\rangle$$

Examples of TFT in 2d

X_i chiral field

$$S = \underbrace{\int d^2z d^4\theta K(X_i, \bar{X}_i)}_{\text{Kähler potential}} + \underbrace{\left[\int d^2z d^2\theta W(X_i) + \text{h.c.} \right]}_{\text{superpotential}}$$

notice that $d^2\theta = d\theta^+ d\theta^-$ is not Lorentz invariant under the A-twist, but is for the B-twist

→ superpotential terms are not allowed in A-model
yes in B-model

We will consider two special examples (for simplicity):

* $W=0$, $K(X_i, \bar{X}_i)$ Kähler potential of a CY 3-fold
topological σ -model of B-type

* $K(X_i, \bar{X}_i) = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \bar{X}_i$, $W(X_i)$ quasihomogeneous polynomial

actually we will ^{mostly} restrict to $n=1$, a single field Φ
LG model
homogeneous → guarantees the existence of classical symmetries $U(1)_{L,R}$:

$$W(\lambda^\omega \Phi) = \lambda W(\Phi) \quad \text{then} \quad q_L(\Phi) = q_R(\Phi) = \omega$$

$U(1)_{L,R}$ anomaly-free in the untwisted theory.

in general: $W(\lambda^{\omega_i} \Phi_i) = \lambda W(\Phi_i)$ $q_L(\Phi_i) = q_R(\Phi_i) = \omega_i$

let us write up the action and Q-transformations

$$\begin{aligned}
 S = & \int_{\Sigma} d^2z \sqrt{g} \left\{ G_{I\bar{J}} (\partial_z \phi^I \partial_{\bar{z}} \phi^{\bar{J}} + \partial_{\bar{z}} \phi^I \partial_z \phi^{\bar{J}}) \right. \\
 & - \int_z^I (G_{I\bar{J}} D_{\bar{z}} \gamma^{\bar{J}} + D_{\bar{z}} \theta_I) - \int_{\bar{z}}^{\bar{I}} (G_{I\bar{J}} D_z \gamma^{\bar{J}} - D_z \theta_I) \\
 & \left. - R^I{}_{\bar{J}L\bar{K}} \gamma^{\bar{L}} \int_z^J \int_{\bar{z}}^{\bar{K}} \theta_I + G^{I\bar{J}} \partial_z W \partial_{\bar{z}} W + (D_{\bar{z}} \partial_{\bar{z}} \bar{W}) \right. \\
 & \left. + \dots \right\}
 \end{aligned}$$

Q-transformations:

$[Q, \phi^I] = 0$	$[Q, \int_z^I] = 2 \partial_z \phi^I$	$[Q, \int_{\bar{z}}^{\bar{I}}] = 2 \partial_{\bar{z}} \phi^{\bar{I}}$
$[Q, \phi^{\bar{I}}] = \gamma^{\bar{I}}$	$\{Q, \theta_I\} = \partial_I W$	

where

$$-\gamma^{\bar{I}} = \bar{\psi}_{-}^{\bar{I}} + \bar{\psi}_{+}^{\bar{I}}, \quad \partial_J G^{I\bar{J}} = \bar{\psi}_{-}^{\bar{I}} - \bar{\psi}_{+}^{\bar{I}}$$

$$\int_z^I = \psi_{-}^I, \quad \int_{\bar{z}}^{\bar{I}} = \psi_{+}^{\bar{I}}$$

and the chiral fields are expanded as

$$\Phi^I = \phi^I + \theta^{\pm} \psi_{\pm}^I + \dots \quad \text{chiral}$$

$$\bar{\Phi}^{\bar{I}} = \phi^{\bar{I}} + \bar{\theta}^{\pm} \bar{\psi}_{\pm}^{\bar{I}} + \dots \quad \text{antichiral}$$

let us first consider a LG theory

W polynomial in ϕ_i

Vafa-Warner-Martinec:

they represent universality class of CFT with $N=2$

A flow in the IR to an $N=2$ SCFT with same W

after twisting, we have an anomaly in the $U(1)_L$ currents:

$$U(1)_L: \quad \theta^+ \rightarrow e^{-i\alpha} \theta^+, \quad \theta^- \rightarrow \theta^-$$

$$\Rightarrow \psi_+ \rightarrow e^{i(\omega-1)\alpha} \psi_+, \quad \psi_- \rightarrow e^{i\omega\alpha} \psi_-$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{anomaly} &= (\# \text{ fermionic zero modes}) \times (1-2\omega) \\ &= (1-g)(1-2\omega) \end{aligned}$$

from here we can read $\hat{c} = 1-2\omega$ the central charge of the theory.

$$\text{in general: } \hat{c} = \sum_{i=1}^n (1-2\omega_i)$$

simple case $n=1$:

$$W(x) = \frac{x^{k+2}}{k+2}, \quad k \geq 1$$

an example of
 $N=2$ minimal model
(classified by ADE,
and this is the A series)

$$w(x) = \frac{1}{k+2} \quad \text{degree of } x$$

$$\hat{c} = \frac{k}{k+2} < 1$$

observables: $[Q, x^i] = 0$ but $\partial_x W = x^{k+1}$
is Q -exact

$$\Rightarrow \phi_i = x^i, \quad i=0, \dots, k \quad q_i = \frac{i}{k+2}$$

$$\text{chiral ring} \quad \phi_i \phi_j = \phi_{i+j} \quad \text{if } i+j \leq k$$

$$0 \quad > k$$

$$\text{in general: } \frac{\mathbb{C}[\phi_i]}{\partial_i W}$$

$$\eta_{ij} = \delta_{i+j, k}$$

notice that the anomaly in $U(1)_L, U(1)_R$ leads to a selection rule: for the correlator

$$\langle \phi_{i_1} \dots \phi_{i_s} \int \phi_{j_1} \dots \int \phi_{j_r} \rangle_{\Sigma_g}$$

namely
$$\sum_{i=1}^s q_i + \sum_{j=1}^r (q_{j-1}) = \hat{c}(1-g)$$

therefore $\langle \phi_k \rangle = 1$, $\langle \phi_i \rangle = 0$ if $i < k$

problem: solve for $C_{ijk}(t)$ in these models.

idea: introduce an "effective" superpotential

$$W(x,t) = \frac{x^{k+2}}{k+2} - \sum_{i=0}^k g_i(t) x^i$$

s.t.
$$\phi_i(x,t) = - \frac{\partial W(x,t)}{\partial t_i}$$

and
$$\phi_i(x,t) \phi_j(x,t) = \sum_e C_{ij}^e \phi_e(x,t)$$

using various inputs, we can solve for $W(x,t)$:

define M thm
$$\frac{M^{k+2}}{k+2} = W(x,t)$$

i.e.
$$M = x + \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} b_j x^{-j}$$

claim:
$$\phi_i(x,t) = \frac{1}{i+1} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [x^{i+1}]_+$$

key facts: the solution $\phi_i(x,t)$ can be uniquely determined by

$$* \phi_i(x,t) = x^i + O(x^{i-2})$$

$$* \langle \phi_i | \phi_j \rangle \equiv \text{res} \left(\frac{\phi_i \phi_j}{w'} \right) = \gamma_{ij}^* \quad (t\text{-independent})$$

Exercise: verify the above satisfies

so we are just solving a Gram-Schmidt problem.

connection to integrable systems:

$$i=0, \dots, k$$

we have a flow equation for W :

$$\frac{\partial W}{\partial t_i} = - \frac{1}{i+1} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} M^{i+1}$$

and this in fact is a particular case of (dispersionless) KdV

CRASH COURSE on hierarchies of the KP type

Consider formal power series $A(x,p) = \sum a_i(x) p^i$

$$B(x,p) = \sum b_i(x) p^i$$

and define the $\star_\hbar$ product

$$A \star_\hbar B = \sum_{k \geq 0} \frac{\hbar^k}{k!} \frac{\partial^k A}{\partial p^k} \frac{\partial^k B}{\partial x^k} = A e^{\hbar \overleftarrow{\frac{\partial}{\partial p}} \overrightarrow{\frac{\partial}{\partial x}}} B$$

(x,p) quantum phase space

also notice that $[A, B]_{\star_\hbar} = \hbar \{A, B\} + O(\hbar^2)$

where $\{A, B\} = \frac{\partial A}{\partial p} \frac{\partial B}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial B}{\partial p} \frac{\partial A}{\partial x}$

Consider now: $L = p + u_2 p^{-1} + u_3 p^{-2} + \dots$

and the flow equations

$$\hbar \frac{\partial L}{\partial t_m} = [B_m, L]_{\star_\hbar}$$

$$B_m = (L^m)_+$$

KP hierarchy

the product is taken to be $\star_\hbar$

when $t \rightarrow 0$ the flow became simply:

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial t_n} = \{B_n, L\} \quad \text{dispersionless limit}$$

Another case: m-KdV

$$\text{take } L = p^m + u_2 p^{m-2} + \dots + u_m.$$

$$t \frac{\partial L}{\partial t_p} = [B_p, L] \quad B_p = (L^{p/m})_+$$

again, the dispersionless limit is $t \frac{\partial L}{\partial t_p} = \{B_p, L\}$

notice that if $p = km$, the flow is trivial

Now we can see the relation between m-KdV and the LG model:

$$\text{write } L = (k+2) W(p, t) \quad \text{i.e. put } x \rightarrow p$$

$$\text{identify } x = t_0 \\ p = \text{LG field } x$$

$$\text{then, } \frac{\partial L}{\partial t_{i+1}} = \{B_{i+1}, L\} = \frac{\partial B_{i+1}}{\partial x} \frac{\partial L}{\partial t_0} - \frac{\partial B_{i+1}}{\partial t_0} \cdot \frac{\partial L}{\partial x}$$

$$B_i = (L^{i+1/k+2})_+$$

but one can see that $L^{\frac{i+1}{k+2}}$ does not depend on t_0 ,

so we find

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial t_{i+1}} = -(k+2) \frac{\partial L^{\frac{i+1}{k+2}}}{\partial x} \quad \text{since } L = -(k+2)t_0 + \dots$$

which, up to a redefinition $t_{i+1} \rightarrow \frac{t_i}{i+1}$ is the flow equation which determines the effective superpotential

B-model & special geometry

We focus on now on the topological σ -model of B-type w. target X

First, since the twist is performed with the J_A current,

there is a restriction on X : $g(X)=0$ since J_A annihilates
if $g(X) \neq 0$

$\rightarrow$ X CY manifold

Observables: since $[Q, \phi^{\bar{I}}]=0$ $\Rightarrow$ $Q = \bar{\partial}$
 $[Q, \phi^{\bar{I}}] = \eta^{\bar{I}}$ $\Rightarrow$ $\eta^{\bar{I}} \equiv d\bar{z}^{\bar{I}}$
 $\theta_{\bar{I}} \equiv \partial/\partial z^{\bar{I}}$

the Q -cohomology depends on a choice of cplx structure on X

One can check that

$$\omega_{\bar{I}_1 \dots \bar{I}_p}^{J_1 \dots J_p} \eta^{\bar{I}_1} \dots \eta^{\bar{I}_p} \theta_{J_1} \dots \theta_{J_p} \quad \text{is } Q\text{-closed}$$

$$\text{if } \omega_{\bar{I}_1 \dots \bar{I}_p}^{J_1 \dots J_p} d\bar{z}^{\bar{I}_1} \dots d\bar{z}^{\bar{I}_p} \wedge \frac{\partial}{\partial z^{J_1}} \dots \wedge \frac{\partial}{\partial z^{J_p}} \quad \text{is } \bar{\partial}\text{-closed}$$

as an element in $\Omega^{0,p}(X, \underbrace{\wedge^p T_X}_{Q\text{-th ext power of the holomorphic tangent bundle}})$

$\rightarrow$ observables live in $H^{0,p}(X, \wedge^p T_X)$

It is useful now to point out that, since X is a CY
of complex dimension n there is a holomorphic $(n,0)$ -form

$$\Omega = \frac{1}{n!} \Omega_{\bar{I}_1 \dots \bar{I}_n} d\bar{z}^{\bar{I}_1} \dots d\bar{z}^{\bar{I}_n} \quad \text{which is nowhere vanishing}$$

This form gives a map

$$\Omega^{(0,p)}(\Lambda^q T_X) \longrightarrow \Omega^{(n-q,p)}(X)$$

$$\varphi_{\bar{J}_1 \dots \bar{J}_p}^{I_1 \dots I_q} \longmapsto \int_{I_1 \dots I_q \dots I_n} \varphi_{\bar{J}_1 \dots \bar{J}_p}^{I_1 \dots I_q}$$

contract q indices

let us now consider correlation functions at $g=0$. For the B-model, the moduli space of vacua is X itself:

$$\text{vacua} \Leftrightarrow \{Q, \text{fermi}\} = 0 \Leftrightarrow \partial_2 \phi^{\bar{I}} = \partial_{\bar{2}} \phi^{\bar{I}} = 0$$

$\Rightarrow \phi^{\bar{I}}$ is a constant map

We can then evaluate correlation functions by just evaluating on zero modes, i.e. in this case integrating the forms over X .

$$\text{so if we have } Q_i \in H^{0,p_i}(X, \Lambda^{q_i} T_X)$$

:

$$Q_r \in H^{0,p_r}(X, \Lambda^{q_r} T_X)$$

$$\text{we will need } \sum p_j = n, \quad \sum q_j = n$$

$$\text{since } Q_1 \dots Q_r \in H^{0,n}(X, \Lambda^n T_X) \xrightarrow[\sim]{\int} H^{n,n}(X)$$

which we can integrate

This also follows from selection rules

Consider now $n=3$ CY threefold

and observables of the form $O = A_{\bar{I}}^J \eta^{\bar{I}} \theta_J$
in $H^{(0,1)}(X, T_X)$ with $\partial[A_{\bar{I}}^J]^J = 0$

there are $h^{2,1}$ observables of this type

(since any Ω we map them to $H^{(2,1)}(X)$)

and they are in one-to-one correspondence with deformations of complex structures of X .

(KS theory + Tian-Todorov)

3-point functions:

$$C_{abc} = \langle \mathcal{O}_a \mathcal{O}_b \mathcal{O}_c \rangle = \int_X (A_a)_{\bar{J}_1}^{I_1} (A_b)_{\bar{J}_2}^{I_2} (A_c)_{\bar{J}_3}^{I_3} \\ \Omega_{I_1 I_2 I_3} \wedge \Omega \\ a, b, c \text{ in } 1, \dots, h^{2,1}$$

Recall that we can perturb the theory with these observables $\sum t^a \int_{\Sigma} \mathcal{O}_a^{(2)}$. Since $\mathcal{O}_a$ are defs. of complex structures, the family of TFT's we obtain is B-model on the CY X with varying complex structures.

Notice that Ω depends itself on the complex structure.

For example, suppose X is defined by the zero locus of a polynomial P in $\mathbb{P}^4$:

$$P(X) = 0 \quad X_1, \dots, X_5 \text{ homogeneous coordinates on } \mathbb{P}^4$$

Consider $\Xi = \frac{1}{4!} \sum_{i_1 \dots i_5} \epsilon_{i_1 \dots i_5} X^{i_1} dX^{i_2} \wedge \dots \wedge dX^{i_5}$

and let γ_P be a loop around $P=0$. Then, one has:

$$\Omega = \int_{\gamma_P} \frac{\Xi}{P}$$

if, for example, $\frac{\partial P}{\partial X_4} \neq 0$, we rewrite $dX_4 = \frac{\partial X_4}{\partial P} dP$ and

integrate the above as

$$\Omega = \frac{X_5 dX_1 \wedge dX_2 \wedge dX_3}{(\partial P / \partial X_4)} \rightarrow \text{encodes dependence on complex structure}$$

A convenient parametrization of complex coordinates are indeed the periods of Ω :

choose a symplectic basis for $H_3(X)$, (A, B_a)

$$a=0,1,\dots,h^{2,1}$$

$$\text{then } Z^a = \int_{A^a} \Omega, \quad \bar{F}_a = \int_{B_a} \Omega$$

and it turns out that Z^a are (local) complex projective coords. for the moduli space. One goes to inhomogeneous coordinates when say $Z^0 \neq 0$ by taking $t^a = \frac{Z^a}{Z^0}$ $a=1,\dots,h^{2,1}$

Z^a : special projective coordinates

in particular, $F_a = F_a(Z^a)$

One important result on the variation of complex structures is that:

$$\frac{\partial \Omega}{\partial z^a} = \underbrace{k_a \Omega}_{(3,0)} + \underbrace{\hat{G}_a}_{(2,1)}$$

and that $\frac{\partial^2 \Omega}{\partial z^a \partial z^b}$ has only degrees (2,1), (1,2) and (3,0)

This is because under a change of complex structure dz mixes to dz and $d\bar{z}$. Degree considerations give then:

$$\int_X \Omega \wedge \frac{\partial \Omega}{\partial z^a} = \int_X \Omega \wedge \frac{\partial^2 \Omega}{\partial z^a \partial z^b} = 0$$

From the first equality follows that:

$$F_a = \frac{\partial F}{\partial z^a} \quad \text{with} \quad F = \frac{1}{2} z^a F_a \quad \text{homogeneous of degree 2 in } z^a.$$

from the second equality one finds that:

$$\int \Omega \wedge \frac{\partial^3 \Omega}{\partial z^a \partial z^b \partial z^c} = \frac{\partial^3 F}{\partial z^a \partial z^b \partial z^c} = \frac{1}{z_0} \frac{\partial^3 F}{\partial t^a \partial t^b \partial t^c}$$

$$\text{where } F = z^2 F$$

therefore, if we redefine $\Omega \rightarrow \frac{1}{z_0} \Omega$ the periods become:

$$(1, t^a, \frac{\partial F}{\partial t^a}, 2F - t^a \frac{\partial F}{\partial t^a}) \quad \text{and}$$

$$\int \Omega \wedge \frac{\partial^3 \Omega}{\partial t^a \partial t^b \partial t^c} = \frac{\partial^3 F}{\partial t^a \partial t^b \partial t^c} = \langle \mathcal{O}_a \mathcal{O}_b \mathcal{O}_c \rangle(t)$$

which is the relation that hold in general