



# $\mathcal{N}=2$ instanton effective action in $\Omega$ -background from superstrings

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# Introduction

Non-perturbative calculations of  $\mathcal{N} = 2$  Super Yang-Mills theory

The low-energy effective action of  $\mathcal{N} = 2$  SYM is determined by some holomorphic function  $\mathcal{F}$  called prepotential. (Seiberg-Witten, 1994)

$$\mathcal{F}(\phi) = \mathcal{F}_{\text{pert}}(\phi) + \mathcal{F}_{\text{inst}}(\phi), \quad \mathcal{F}_{\text{inst}}^{\text{SU}(2)}(\phi) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{F}_k \left( \frac{\Lambda}{\phi} \right)^{4k} \phi^2$$

Introducing parameters  $\epsilon$ , the instanton partition function for  $\mathcal{N} = 2$  Super Yang-Mills theory is calculated. (Nekrasov, 2002)

$$Z_{\text{inst}}(\phi, \Lambda, \epsilon_1, \epsilon_2) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \Lambda^{2Nk} \int_{\mathcal{M}_{N,k}} d\mu_{\text{inst}} \exp[-S_{\text{eff}}(\phi, \epsilon_1, \epsilon_2)]$$

$S_{\text{eff}}(\phi, \epsilon_1, \epsilon_2)$ : instanton effective action deformed by  $\epsilon$ 's

$$\log Z_{\text{inst}}(\phi, \Lambda, \epsilon_1, \epsilon_2) = \frac{1}{\epsilon_1 \epsilon_2} \left( \mathcal{F}_{\text{inst}}(\phi) + (\epsilon_1 + \epsilon_2) \mathcal{F}_1(\phi) + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^2) \right)$$

- Interpretation of deformation parameters in terms of superstring theory

In case of  $\epsilon_1 = -\epsilon_2 = \hbar \rightarrow$  coupling constant of topological string theory

self-dual graviphoton background (closed string approach)  
[Antoniadis-Gava-Narain-Taylor], etc.

self-dual R-R 3-form background (open string approach)  
[Billo-Frau-Fucito-Lerda], [Matsuura]

Find the background parameter in string theory context  
corresponding to **general**  $\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2$

cf.) Case of general  $\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2$

$\rightarrow$  Partition function is related to the refinement of  
topological string theory

[Antoniadis-Hohenegger-Narain-Taylor]

# $\mathcal{N}=2$ SYM in $\Omega$ -background

6 dim.  $\mathcal{N}=1$  SYM Lagrangian (Euclidean)

$$\mathcal{L}_{6D} = \sqrt{-G} \text{Tr} \left[ \frac{1}{4} G^{MP} G^{NQ} F_{MN} F_{PQ} + \frac{i}{2} \bar{\Psi} \Gamma^M \mathcal{D}_M \Psi \right]$$

with metric

$$ds_{6D}^2 = 2dzd\bar{z} + (dx^m + \bar{\Omega}^m dz + \Omega^m d\bar{z})^2$$

where

$$\Omega^m = \Omega^{mn} x_n, \quad \bar{\Omega}^m = \bar{\Omega}^{mn} x_n$$

$$\Omega^{mn} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} & \epsilon_1 & & \\ -\epsilon_1 & & & \\ & & -\epsilon_2 & \\ & & & \epsilon_2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \bar{\Omega}^{mn} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} & \bar{\epsilon}_1 & & \\ -\bar{\epsilon}_1 & & & \\ & & \bar{\epsilon}_2 & \\ & & & -\bar{\epsilon}_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

constant anti-symmetric matrices

Insert R-symmetry Wilson line (gauging SU(2) R-symmetry)

$$\mathbf{A}^I{}_J = \bar{\mathcal{A}}^I{}_J dz + \mathcal{A}^I{}_J d\bar{z}$$

$\bar{\mathcal{A}}^I{}_J, \mathcal{A}^I{}_J$  : constant parameter  $I, J$  : SU(2) R-symmetry indices

KK reduction of toric dim.  $\rightarrow$  4 dim.  $\mathcal{N}=2$  SYM Lagrangian

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_\Omega = \text{Tr} & \left[ \frac{1}{4} F_{mn} F^{mn} + (D_m \varphi - g F_{mn} \Omega^n)(D_m \bar{\varphi} - g F_{mp} \bar{\Omega}^p) \right. \\ & + \Lambda^I \sigma^m D_m \bar{\Lambda} - \frac{i}{\sqrt{2}} g \Lambda^I [\bar{\varphi}, \Lambda_I] + \frac{i}{\sqrt{2}} g \bar{\Lambda}_I [\varphi, \bar{\Lambda}^I] \\ & + \frac{g^2}{2} ([\varphi, \bar{\varphi}] + i \Omega^m D_m \bar{\varphi} - i \bar{\Omega}^m D_m \varphi + i g \bar{\Omega}^m \Omega^n F_{mn})^2 \\ & + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} g \bar{\Omega}^m \Lambda^I D_m \Lambda_I - \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}} g \bar{\Omega}_{mn} \Lambda^I \sigma^{mn} \Lambda_I \\ & - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} g \Omega^m \bar{\Lambda}_I D_m \bar{\Lambda}^I + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}} g \Omega_{mn} \bar{\Lambda}_I \bar{\sigma}^{mn} \bar{\Lambda}^I \\ & \left. - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} g \bar{\mathcal{A}}^J{}_I \Lambda^I \Lambda_J - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} g \mathcal{A}^J{}_I \bar{\Lambda}^I \bar{\Lambda}_J \right] \end{aligned}$$

When we choose R-sym. Wilson line as

$$\mathcal{A}^I{}_J = -\frac{1}{2}\Omega_{mn}(\bar{\sigma}^{mn})^I{}_J, \quad \bar{\mathcal{A}}^I{}_J = -\frac{1}{2}\bar{\Omega}_{mn}(\bar{\sigma}^{mn})^I{}_J$$

$\mathcal{L}_\Omega$  preserves **one supersymmetry**.

= scalar supercharge of topological twisted theory  $\bar{Q}_\Omega$

Nilpotency of  $\bar{Q}_\Omega$

$$\bar{Q}_\Omega^2 = \text{gauge transf. by } 2\sqrt{2}\varphi + \text{U(1)}^2 \text{ rotation by } 2\sqrt{2}\Omega_{mn}$$

equivariant deformation

$\bar{Q}_\Omega$ -exactness

The action can be written in exact form as

$$\int d^4x \mathcal{L}_\Omega = \frac{8\pi^2 k}{g^2} + \bar{Q}_\Omega \Xi \quad (k : \text{instanton number})$$

# Deformed instanton effective action from string theory

N fractional D3-branes on  $\mathbb{R}^2 \times (\mathbb{R}^4 / \mathbb{Z}_2)$  singularity

→  $\mathcal{N} = 2$  super Yang-Mills

Embed k D(-1)-branes on D3

→ k-instanton configuration of  $\mathcal{N} = 2$  super Yang-Mills

ADHM instanton moduli

→ massless modes of open string connecting D(-1)-branes



Bosonic modes	$(a'_m)_{ij}$	$k \times k$ Hermitian	“position moduli”
	$(w^{\dot{\alpha}})_{ui}$	$N \times k$ complex	“size moduli”
Fermionic modes	$(\mathcal{M}'^I_{\alpha})_{ij}$	$k \times k$ Hermitian matrices	
	$(\mu^A)_{ui}$	$N \times k$ complex matrices	
Auxiliary variables	$\chi, \bar{\chi}, D^c$	$k \times k$ Hermitian	bosonic
	$\bar{\psi}^{\dot{\alpha}}_I$	$k \times k$ Hermitian	fermionic

Computing disk amplitudes of their vertex operators

→ Effective action for D(-1)-branes

$$S_{\text{eff}}^0 = 2\pi^2 \text{tr}_k \left[ -2[\bar{\chi}, a'_m][\chi, a'_m] - \frac{i}{2\sqrt{2}} \mathcal{M}'^{\alpha I} [\bar{\chi}, \mathcal{M}'_{\alpha I}] + \frac{i}{\sqrt{2}} \bar{\mu}^I (\mu_I \bar{\chi} - \bar{\phi}^0 \mu_I) \right. \\ \left. + (\bar{\chi} \bar{w}^{\dot{\alpha}} - \bar{w}^{\dot{\alpha}} \bar{\phi}^0)(w_{\dot{\alpha}} \chi - \phi^0 w_{\dot{\alpha}}) + (\chi \bar{w}^{\dot{\alpha}} - \bar{w}^{\dot{\alpha}} \phi^0)(w_{\dot{\alpha}} \bar{\chi} - \bar{\phi}^0 w_{\dot{\alpha}}) \right. \\ \left. - i \bar{\psi}^{\dot{\alpha}}_I (\bar{\mu}^I w_{\dot{\alpha}} + \bar{w}_{\dot{\alpha}} \mu^I + [\mathcal{M}'^{\alpha I}, a'_{\alpha \dot{\alpha}}]) + i D^c (\tau^c)^{\dot{\alpha}}_{\dot{\beta}} (\bar{w}^{\dot{\beta}} w_{\dot{\alpha}} + \bar{a}'^{\dot{\beta} \alpha} a'_{\alpha \dot{\alpha}}) \right]$$

$\phi^0, \bar{\phi}^0$  : VEVs of gauge adjoint scalar

## Inserting R-R background

We consider constant R-R field strength  $\mathcal{F}^{\alpha\beta AB}$ ,  $\mathcal{F}^{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}}_{AB}$

$\alpha, \dot{\alpha}$  : 4 dim. 2-spinor       $A$  : 6 dim. 4-spinor (transverse to D3)

Corresponding vertex operator

$$V_{\mathcal{F}^+} = (2\pi\alpha') \mathcal{F}^{\alpha\beta AB} S_\alpha S_A e^{-\frac{1}{2}\phi(z)} S_\beta S_B e^{-\frac{1}{2}\phi(\bar{z})}$$

$$V_{\mathcal{F}^-} = (2\pi\alpha') \mathcal{F}^{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}}_{AB} S_{\dot{\alpha}} S^A e^{-\frac{1}{2}\phi(z)} S_{\dot{\beta}} S^B e^{-\frac{1}{2}\phi(\bar{z})}$$

Here we focus on 3-form part

$$\mathcal{F}^{(\alpha\beta)}[AB] = \mathcal{F}^+_{mna} (\sigma^{mn})^{\alpha\beta} (\Sigma^a)^{AB}$$

$$\mathcal{F}^{[\alpha\beta]}(AB) = \mathcal{F}^-_{abc} \epsilon^{\alpha\beta} (\Sigma^a \bar{\Sigma}^b \Sigma^c)^{AB}$$

After orbifold projection, the remaining components are

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{F}_{mn}^+ &\sim (\sigma_{mn})_{\alpha\beta} \mathcal{F}^{(\alpha\beta)} [12], & \bar{\mathcal{F}}_{mn}^+ &\sim (\sigma_{mn})_{\alpha\beta} \mathcal{F}^{(\alpha\beta)} [34] \\
 \mathcal{F}_{mn}^- &\sim (\bar{\sigma}_{mn})_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}} \mathcal{F}^{(\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta})} [34], & \bar{\mathcal{F}}_{mn}^- &\sim (\bar{\sigma}_{mn})_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}} \mathcal{F}^{(\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta})} [12] \\
 \mathcal{F}^{(IJ)} &\sim \epsilon_{\alpha\beta} \mathcal{F}^{[\alpha\beta]}(IJ), & \mathcal{F}^{(I'J')} &\sim \epsilon_{\alpha\beta} \mathcal{F}^{[\alpha\beta]}(I'J') \\
 \bar{\mathcal{F}}_{(IJ)} &\sim \epsilon_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}} \mathcal{F}^{[\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}]}_{(IJ)}, & \bar{\mathcal{F}}_{(I'J')} &\sim \epsilon_{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}} \mathcal{F}^{[\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}]}_{(I'J')}
 \end{aligned}$$

Here

$$I, J = 1, 2, \quad I', J' = 3, 4$$

In obtaining the D(-1) effective action, we take the field theory limit.

$$\alpha' \rightarrow 0, \quad (2\pi\alpha')^{\frac{1}{2}} \mathcal{F} \equiv C \quad (\text{finite})$$

The case with only  $C_{mn}^+, \bar{C}_{mn}^+$  already considered in [Billo-Frau-Fucito-Lerda]

The deformed D(-1)-brane effective action

$$\begin{aligned}
S_{\text{eff}}^0 = & 2\pi^2 \text{tr}_k \left[ -2 \left( [\bar{\chi}, a'_m] + (\bar{C}_{mn}^+ + \bar{C}_{mn}^-) a'^m \right) \left( [\chi, a'_m] + (C^{+mp} + C^{-mp}) a'_p \right) \right. \\
& - \frac{i}{2\sqrt{2}} \mathcal{M}'^{\alpha I} \left( [\bar{\chi}, \mathcal{M}'_{\alpha I}] + \frac{1}{2} \bar{C}_{mn}^+ (\sigma^{mn})_{\alpha\beta} \mathcal{M}'_{\beta I} - \frac{1}{2} \bar{C}_{mn}^- (\bar{\sigma}^{mn})^J{}_I \mathcal{M}'_{\alpha J} \right) \\
& + \frac{i}{\sqrt{2}} \bar{\mu}^I \left( \mu_I \bar{\chi} - \bar{\phi}^0 \mu_I + \frac{1}{2} \bar{C}^J{}_{I\mu J} \right) \\
& + \left( \bar{\chi} \bar{w}^{\dot{\alpha}} - \bar{w}^{\dot{\alpha}} \bar{\phi}^0 + \frac{1}{2} \bar{C}_{mn}^- (\sigma^{\bar{m}n})^{\dot{\alpha}}{}_{\dot{\beta}} \bar{w}^{\dot{\beta}} \right) \left( w_{\dot{\alpha}} \chi - \phi^0 w_{\dot{\alpha}} + \frac{1}{2} C_{mn}^- (\sigma^{\bar{m}n})^{\dot{\gamma}}{}_{\dot{\alpha}} w_{\dot{\gamma}} \right) \\
& + \left( \chi \bar{w}^{\dot{\alpha}} - \bar{w}^{\dot{\alpha}} \phi^0 + \frac{1}{2} C_{mn}^- (\sigma^{\bar{m}n})^{\dot{\alpha}}{}_{\dot{\beta}} \bar{w}^{\dot{\beta}} \right) \left( w_{\dot{\alpha}} \bar{\chi} - \bar{\phi}^0 w_{\dot{\alpha}} + \frac{1}{2} \bar{C}_{mn}^- (\sigma^{\bar{m}n})^{\dot{\gamma}}{}_{\dot{\alpha}} w_{\dot{\gamma}} \right) \\
& \left. - i \bar{\psi}_I^{\dot{\alpha}} \left( \bar{\mu}^I w_{\dot{\alpha}} + \bar{w}_{\dot{\alpha}} \mu^I + [\mathcal{M}'^{\alpha I}, a'_{\alpha\dot{\alpha}}] \right) + i D^c (\tau^c)^{\dot{\alpha}}{}_{\dot{\beta}} \left( \bar{w}^{\dot{\beta}} w_{\dot{\alpha}} + \bar{a}'^{\dot{\beta}\alpha} a'_{\alpha\dot{\alpha}} \right) \right]
\end{aligned}$$

This action agrees with the deformed instanton effective action when we identify

$$C_{mn} = -i\Omega_{mn}, \quad \bar{C}_{mn} = -i\bar{\Omega}_{mn}, \quad \bar{C}^I{}_J = -i\bar{A}^I{}_J$$

and preserves **one supersymmetry** (explicitly shown in our paper)

= Nekrasov's equivariant BRST operator

# Conclusions & Future Works

- We computed the D(-1)-brane effective action in general (not self-dual) R-R 3-form background

→ Reproduced the instanton eff. action in general  $\Omega$ -background

- We revealed the correspondence between R-R 3-form and  $\Omega$ -background  $\mathcal{F}^{(\alpha\beta)}[IJ], \mathcal{F}^{(\alpha\beta)}[I'J'] \leftrightarrow \Omega_{mn}^+, \bar{\Omega}_{mn}^+$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \mathcal{F}^{(\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta})}_{[I'J']}, \mathcal{F}^{(\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta})}_{[IJ]} &\leftrightarrow \Omega_{mn}^-, \bar{\Omega}_{mn}^- \\ \mathcal{F}^{[\dot{\alpha}\dot{\beta}]}_{(IJ)} &\leftrightarrow \bar{A}_{IJ} \left( = -\frac{1}{2} \bar{\Omega}_{mn}^- (\bar{\sigma}^{mn})_{IJ} \right) \end{aligned} \right\} \text{Our new results!!}$$

- We explicitly showed **one preserved supersymmetry** of deformed action
- Coincides with **Nekrasov's BRST operator**

For future works

- $\mathcal{N} = 4$  and  $\mathcal{N} = 2^*$  case → more parameters in  $\Omega$ -background
- Higher dimensional instanton calculus