

†

# String<sup>c</sup> Structures and Modular Invariants

Haibao Duan, **Fei Han** and Ruizhi Huang

National University of Singapore

## Table of contents

1. Backgrounds : (rational) genera, liftings of structure groups and Witten genus
2. Algebraic topology of  $\text{String}^c$ -structures and Generalized Witten Genus of Various Levels
3. Applications of generalized vanishing theorem

## Section 1

**Backgrounds : (rational) genera, liftings of structure groups and Witten genus**

# Genera

- A (rational) genus

$$\varphi : \Omega^{SO} \otimes \mathbb{Q} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$$

from the (rational) cobordism ring of oriented manifolds, by definition, is a **ring** homomorphism such that  $\varphi(1) = 1$ .

- (Hirzebruch) Each genus **uniquely** corresponds to and is defined by a **characteristic power series**

$$Q(z) = 1 + a_2 z^2 + a_4 z^4 + \cdots ,$$

where “z” can be viewed as formal Chern root.

## A-hat genus of spin manifolds : Atiyah-Singer index theorem

- $\hat{A}$ -genus, by definition, corresponds to the characteristic power series

$$Q(z) = \frac{z/2}{\sinh(z/2)} = 1 - z^2/24 + 7z^4/5760 - 31z^6/967680 + \cdots,$$

- (**Atiyah-Singer index theorem**) Let  $M$  be a  $4k$ -dimensional closed oriented smooth spin manifold (i.e.  $\omega_2(M) = 0$ ), then

$$\text{Ind} \not{D} \otimes E = \int_M \hat{A}(M) \cdot \text{ch}(E \otimes \mathbb{C}),$$

where  $\not{D}$  is the Dirac operator and here twisted by the real vector bundle  $E$  over  $M$ .

- In particular, the  $\hat{A}$ -genus of a spin manifold is an integer.

## Generalization of Atiyah-Singer (I) : From $\text{Spin}$ to $\text{Spin}^c$

- A closed oriented manifold  $M$  is called  $\text{Spin}^c$  if there is an element  $c \in H^2(M; \mathbb{Z})$  such that the mod 2 reduction  $\rho_2(c) = \omega_2(M)$ .
- To specify a  $\text{Spin}^c$ -structure  $(M, c)$  on  $M$  is equivalent to specify a pair  $(M, \xi)$ , where

$$\mathbb{C} \rightarrow \xi \rightarrow M$$

is the complex line bundle corresponding to  $c$ . May denote  $M = (M, \xi, c)$ .

- ( $\text{Spin}^c$  Atiyah-Singer) Let  $M$  be a  $2k$ -dimensional closed oriented smooth  $\text{Spin}^c$ , then

$$\text{Ind} \mathcal{D}^c = \int_M \hat{A}(M) \cdot e^{\frac{1}{2}c}.$$

- In particular,  $\hat{A}(M) \cdot e^{\frac{1}{2}c}$  of a  $\text{Spin}^c$  manifold is an integer.

## Generalization of Atiyah-Singer (II) : From Spin to String

- Consider the Whitehead tower of  $BSO$

$$\cdots \rightarrow BString \xrightarrow{\frac{p_1}{2}} BSpin \xrightarrow{\omega_2} BSO.$$

- (Witten (virtual) bundle, 1988) For  $M^{4k}$ ,

$$\Theta(T_{\mathbb{C}}M) = \bigotimes_{m=1}^{+\infty} S_{q^{2m}}(\widetilde{T_{\mathbb{C}}M}),$$

where  $q = e^{\pi i \tau}$  ( $\tau \in \mathbb{H}$ ),  $T_{\mathbb{C}}M = TM \otimes \mathbb{C}$ ,  $\widetilde{T_{\mathbb{C}}M} = T_{\mathbb{C}}M - \mathbb{C}^{4k}$ ,  
and the **total symmetric powers** of any bundle  $E$

$$S_t(E) = 1 + tE + t^2S^2(E) + \cdots$$

- (Index theorem with **Witten form (genus)**; Zagier, '86) If  $M^{4k}$  is **String**, then

$$\text{Ind} \mathcal{D}^L = \int_M \mathcal{W}(M) := \hat{A}(M) \cdot \text{ch}(\Theta(T_{\mathbb{C}}M))$$

is an **integral modular form of weight  $2k$  over  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$** .

## Recall definition of modular form

- Let  $\Gamma$  be a subgroup of  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ .
- A **modular form** over  $\Gamma$  is a **holomorphic function**  $f$  on  $\mathbb{H}$  such that

$$f\left(\frac{a\tau + b}{c\tau + d}\right) = (c\tau + d)^k f(\tau)$$

for any  $\tau \in \mathbb{H}$  and

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in \Gamma.$$

- In this talk, we are actually using its **Fourier expansion**.



# Witten-Bott-Taubes-Liu's Rigidity Theorem

## Witten-Bott-Taubes-Liu's Rigidity Theorem

Let  $X$  be a closed smooth connected manifold which admits a nontrivial  $S^1$  action. Let  $P$  be an elliptic differential operator on  $X$  commuting with the  $S^1$  action. Then the kernel and cokernel of  $P$  are finite dimensional representation of  $S^1$ . The equivariant index of  $P$  is the virtual character of  $S^1$  defined by

$$\text{Ind}(g, P) = \text{tr}|_g \ker P - \text{tr}|_g \text{coker} P,$$

for  $g \in S^1$ . We call that  $P$  is *rigid* with respect to this circle action if  $\text{Ind}(g, P)$  is independent of  $g$ .

### Theorem

*The Witten operators  $B_M \otimes \Theta_1(T_{\mathbb{C}}M)$ ,  $D \otimes \Theta_2(T_{\mathbb{C}}M)$  are rigid.*

This implies in particular the *Rarita-Schwinger operator*  $D \otimes T_{\mathbb{C}}M$  is rigid.

## Liu's Vanishing Theorem

Liu's Vanishing Theorem (appended by Dessai)

### Theorem

*If  $M$  is a smooth string manifold and admits a nontrivial action of  $S^3$ , then the Witten genus vanishes*

$$\Psi_W(M, \tau) = 0.$$

A profound development of the classical result by Atiyah-Hirzebruch :  
If  $M$  is spin and admits a smooth  $S^1$  action, then the A-hat genus vanishes :

$$\hat{A}(M) = 0.$$

Vast development of rigidity and vanishing theorems : Liu-Ma-Zhang family and foliation cases, Dessai spin<sup>c</sup> case, Liu-Yu  $\mathbb{Z}/k$  case, Mathai-H. noncompact case...

# The Question : $? = String^c$



- (Question :) can we fill in the “?” in the diagram?  
 $String^c$ -structures? Twisted Witten genera? Index theorem?  
 Applications?

## Partial answer

- A  $\text{Spin}^c (M, \xi, c)$  is **String<sup>c</sup> of Chen-H-Zhang**
  - if  $M = M^{4k}$  and  $p_1(M) - 3c^2 = 0$  (rationally);
  - if  $M = M^{4k+2}$  and  $p_1(M) - c^2 = 0$  (rationally).
- (**Generalized Witten bundle**) For  $M^{4k}$ ,

$$\Theta(T_{\mathbb{C}}M, \xi_{\mathbb{R}} \otimes \mathbb{C}) = \Theta(T_{\mathbb{C}}M) \otimes \Lambda_{(+,0)}(\xi) \otimes \Lambda_{(+,1)}(\xi) \otimes \Lambda_{(-,1)}(\xi);$$

For  $M^{4k+2}$ ,

$$\Theta(T_{\mathbb{C}}M, \xi_{\mathbb{R}} \otimes \mathbb{C}) = \Theta(T_{\mathbb{C}}M) \otimes \Lambda_{(-,0)}(\xi),$$

where

$$\Lambda_{(\pm,0)}(\xi) = \bigotimes_{n=1}^{\infty} \Lambda_{\pm q^{2n}}(\widetilde{\xi_{\mathbb{R}} \otimes \mathbb{C}}), \quad \Lambda_{(\pm,1)}(\xi) = \bigotimes_{n=1}^{\infty} \Lambda_{\pm q^{2n-1}}(\widetilde{\xi_{\mathbb{R}} \otimes \mathbb{C}}),$$

and the **total exterior powers** of any bundle  $E$

$$\Lambda_t(E) = 1 + tE + t^2\Lambda^2(E) + \cdots .$$

## Partial answer

- (Generalized Witten form (genus))

$$W_c(M) = \int_M \mathcal{W}_c(M) := \hat{A}(M) e^{\frac{1}{2}c} \text{ch}(\Theta(T_{\mathbb{C}}M, \xi_{\mathbb{R}} \otimes \mathbb{C})).$$

- They are also indices of some so-called **generalized Witten operators**, and are integral modular forms of weight  $2k$  over  $SL(2; \mathbb{Z})$  when  $M$  is  $\text{String}^c$  in the sense of CHZ.

## Our (further) answer of the question :

1. to give complete answer to the  $\text{String}^c$ -structures in the mentioned spirit ;
2. to construct  $\text{String}^c$ -groups ;
3. to exploit the algebraic topology of  $\text{String}^c$  structures ;
4. to construct generalized Witten genera which are integral modular forms (up to constants) for  $\text{String}^c$ -manifolds ;
5. to prove vanishing theorems analogous to those for  $\text{String}$ -manifolds and CHZ's  $\text{String}^c$  ;
6. apply vanishing theorem to almost complex manifolds and symplectic manifolds.

## Section 2

# Algebraic topology of $\text{String}^c$ -structures and Generalized Witten Genus of Various Levels

## Algebraic topology of $B\text{Spin}^c$

- By definition, the topological group  $\text{Spin}^c(n)$  is the central extension of  $SO(n)$  by  $U(1)$ ; alternatively, we have the principal bundle

$$\text{Spin}(n) \xrightarrow{i} \text{Spin}^c(n) \xrightarrow{\pi} S^1.$$

- For **free loop space**  $LX = \text{map}(S^1, X)$ , we have the canonical fibration

$$\Omega X \xrightarrow{i} LX \xrightarrow{p} X,$$

where  $p$  is the evaluation map.

- $L\text{Spin}$ ,  $L\text{Spin}^c$ , etc, are so-called **loop groups**.



## Algebraic topology of $B\text{Spin}^c$ , continued : Cohomology

$H^{i=?}(-; \mathbb{Z})$	1	2	3	4
$\text{Spin}(n)$	0	0	$\mathbb{Z}\{\mu_3\}$	0
$L\text{Spin}(n)$	0	$\mathbb{Z}\{x_2\}$	$\mathbb{Z}\{\mu_3\}$	$\mathbb{Z}\{x_2^2\}$
$\text{Spin}^c(n)$	$\mathbb{Z}\{s_1\}$	0	$\mathbb{Z}\{\mu_3\}$	$\mathbb{Z}\{s_1\mu_3\}$
$L_k\text{Spin}^c(n)$	$\mathbb{Z}\{s_1\}$	$\mathbb{Z}\{x_2\}$	$\mathbb{Z}\{s_1x_2\} \oplus \mathbb{Z}\{\mu_3\}$	$\mathbb{Z}\{s_1\mu_3\} \oplus \mathbb{Z}\{x_2^2\}$
$B\text{Spin}(n)$	0	0	0	$\mathbb{Z}\{q_4\}$
$B\text{Spin}^c(n)$	0	$\mathbb{Z}\{c_2\}$	0	$\mathbb{Z}\{c_2^2\} \oplus \mathbb{Z}\{q_4\}$
$B\text{LSpin}(n)$	0	0	$\mathbb{Z}\{\mu_3\}$	$\mathbb{Z}\{q_4\}$
$B\text{LSpin}^c(n)$	$\mathbb{Z}\{s_1\}$	$\mathbb{Z}\{c_2\}$	$\mathbb{Z}\{s_1c_2\} \oplus \mathbb{Z}\{\mu_3\}$	

- Remark : we have  $\text{Spin}^c$ -classes  $c_2^2, q_4$  ( $2q_4 + c_2^2 = p_1$ );  $L\text{Spin}^c$ -class  $s_1c_2, \mu_3$ ; etc.
- Duan (2018) has completely determined all the  $\text{Spin}^c$ -classes.
- General  $L\text{Spin}$  ( $L\text{Spin}^c$ )-classes are still mysterious.

## Algebraic topology of $B\text{Spin}^c$ , continued : “transgression”

- The free evaluation map

$$\text{ev} : S^1 \times LX \rightarrow X$$

is defined by  $\text{ev}((t, \lambda)) = \lambda(1)$ .

- Define the **free (cohomology) suspension** (“transgression”)

$$\nu : H^{n+1}(X) \rightarrow H^n(LX)$$

by the formula  $\text{ev}^*(x) = 1 \otimes p^*(x) + s_1 \otimes \nu(x)$  for any  $x \in H^{n+1}(X)$ .

### Lemma (Duan-H-Huang)

$\nu : H^4(B\text{Spin}^c(n); \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow H^3(BL\text{Spin}^c(n); \mathbb{Z})$  satisfies

$$\nu(q_4) = \mu_3 - s_1 c_2, \quad \nu(c_2^2) = 2s_1 c_2.$$

In particular,

$$\nu\left(\frac{p_1 - (2k+1)c^2}{2}\right) = \mu_3 - (2k+1)s_1 c_2, \quad \text{for any } k \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

## A : general $\text{String}^c$ structure via classifying spaces

From now on, let  $(M^n, \xi, c = e(\xi))$  be a  $\text{Spin}^c$ -triple. For any  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,

- $M$  is **level  $2k + 1$  (strong)  $\text{String}^c$**  if the characteristic class

$$\frac{p_1(M) - (2k + 1)c^2}{2} = 0.$$

- $M$  is **level  $2k + 1$  (weak)  $\text{String}^c$**  if the characteristic class

$$\mu_3(LM) - (2k + 1)sc = 0,$$

where  $\mu_3$ ,  $s$  is the “loop” of  $q_4$  and  $u_2$  respectively.

**Remark** : CHZ's  $\text{String}^c$ -manifolds rationally are level 3 when  $M = M^{4m}$ , and level 1 when  $M = M^{4m+2}$ .

## B : constructing $String_k^C$ -groups

- Embedding  $Spin^c(n)$  to “larger”  $Spin(N)$  groups. e.g., when  $k < 0$ ,

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 Spin^c(n) & \xrightarrow{\lambda_{2k+1}} & Spin(n - 4k - 2) \\
 \downarrow \rho & & \downarrow p \\
 SO(n) \times S^1 & \xrightarrow{id_{SO(n)} \times \Delta_{-2k-1}} & SO(n) \times \underbrace{S^1 \times \cdots \times S^1}_{-2k-1} \xrightarrow{\chi_{-2k-1}} SO(n - 4k - 2),
 \end{array}$$

- Constructing  $String_k^C(n)$  by pull-back of topological groups

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 String_k^C(n) & \xrightarrow{\gamma_{2k+1}} & String(N) \\
 \downarrow j_k \quad \lrcorner & & \downarrow j \\
 Spin^c(n) & \xrightarrow{\lambda_{2k+1}} & Spin(N),
 \end{array}$$

- Hence,  $String_k^C$ -group is an extension of  $Spin^c(n)$  by  $K(\mathbb{Z}, 2)$ .
- Stolz-Teichner (2004) defined  $PU(A)$  as a model of  $K(\mathbb{Z}, 2)$ .
- Nikolaus-Sachse-Wockel (2013) Kac-Moody group model of  $String$ .

# From “B” to “A”

For each  $k$ , we already have the extension

$$\{1\} \rightarrow PU(A) \rightarrow String_k^c(n) \xrightarrow{j_k} Spin^c(n) \rightarrow \{1\}.$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & & BString_k^c(n) \\
 & \nearrow \text{dashed} & \downarrow \\
 M^n & \xrightarrow{g} & BSpin^c(n) \\
 & & \downarrow \frac{p_1 - (2k+1)c_2^2}{2} \\
 & & K(\mathbb{Z}, 4)
 \end{array}$$

Nonloop/Strong Case

transgress to  
 $\rightsquigarrow$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & & BLString_k^c(n) \\
 & \nearrow \text{dashed} & \downarrow \\
 LM^n & \xrightarrow{Lg} & BLSpin^c(n) \\
 & & \downarrow u_3 - (2k+1)s_1c_2 \\
 & & LK(\mathbb{Z}, 4)
 \end{array}$$

Loop/Weak Case

## C : structural theorem of (strong) $\text{String}^c$ -manifolds

### Theorem $\text{String}^c$ (Duan-H-Huang)

- A equivalence :

$M$  admits a **strong**  
 $\text{String}^c$ -structure

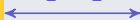


The **stable spin principal bundle**  
associated to  $M \oplus \xi^{\oplus(-2k-1)}$   
admits a **string** structure  
for some  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$

- If  $M$  is  $(2k + 1)$ -level  $\text{String}^c$ ,

The distinct level  $k$   
**strong**  $\text{String}^c$ -  
structures on  $M$

$1 - 1$



The elements in the image of  
 $\rho^* : H^3(M) \rightarrow H^3(S(\xi))$

where  $\rho : S(\xi) \rightarrow M$  is the circle bundle of  $\xi$ .

## C : structural theorem of (weak) $\text{String}^c$ -manifolds

### LTheorem $\text{String}^c$ (Duan-H-Huang)

- A equivalence :

$M$  admits a **weak**  
 $\text{String}^c$ -structure



The structural group of the  
 $L\text{Spin}^c$ -principal bundle of  $LM$   
can be lifted to  $\widehat{L\text{Spin}^c}(n)$   
in a reasonable way

- If  $M$  is  $(2k + 1)$ -level weak  $\text{String}^c$ ,

The distinct level  $k$   
**weak**  $\text{String}^c$ -  
structures on  $M$



The elements in the image of  
 $(L\rho)^* : H^2(LM) \rightarrow H^2(LS(\xi))$

**Remark** : Here  $\widehat{L\text{Spin}^c}(n)$  is a universal central extension extension of  
 $L\text{Spin}^c(n)$  by  $U(1)$

## C : summary

	Strong/Nonloop point of view		Weak/ Loop point of view	
$G$ -Structure	obstruction characteristic class	counting (parameterized by)	structural group lifting to	counting (parameterized by)
$SO$	$\omega_1(M)$	$H^0(M; \mathbb{Z}/2)$		
$Spin$	$\omega_2(M)$	$H^1(M; \mathbb{Z}/2)$	$L_0SO(n)$	$H^0(LM; \mathbb{Z}/2)$
String	$\frac{p_1(M)}{2}$	$H^3(M; \mathbb{Z})$	$\widehat{LSpin}(n)$	$H^2(LM; \mathbb{Z})$
$Spin^c$	$W_3(M)$	$H^1(M; \mathbb{Z}/2) \oplus 2H^2(M; \mathbb{Z})$		
$String_k^c$	$\frac{p_1(M) - (2k+1)c^2}{2}$	$\text{Im}(\rho^* : H^3(M) \rightarrow H^3(S(\xi)))$	$\widehat{LSpin}^c(n)$	$\text{Im}((L\rho)^*)$

**Remark :** “Strong” implies “Weak”, while the converse holds only under



## D : generalized Witten genera

From “D” to “E”, let  $(M, \xi, c)$  be a level  $2k + 1$  (strong) String<sup>c</sup>-manifold such that  $2k + 1 > 0$ .

Let  $\vec{a} = (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_r) \in \mathbb{Z}^r$ ,  $\vec{b} = (b_1, b_2, \dots, b_s) \in \mathbb{Z}^s$  be two vectors.

- If  $M = M^{4m}$ , suppose

$$3\|\vec{a}\|^2 + \|\vec{b}\|^2 = 2k - 2;$$

- if  $M = M^{4m+2}$ , suppose

$$3\|\vec{a}\|^2 + \|\vec{b}\|^2 = 2k.$$

### Recall

$$\Lambda_{(\pm, 0)}(E) = \bigotimes_{n=1}^{\infty} \Lambda_{\pm q^{2n}}(\widetilde{E_{\mathbb{R}} \otimes \mathbb{C}}), \quad \Lambda_{(\pm, 1)}(E) = \bigotimes_{n=1}^{\infty} \Lambda_{\pm q^{2n-1}}(\widetilde{E_{\mathbb{R}} \otimes \mathbb{C}}).$$

## D : generalized Witten genera, continued

### Generalized Witten bundles

- Define  $(\vec{a}, \vec{b})$ -indexed virtual bundle

$$\Upsilon_{\vec{a}, \vec{b}}(T_{\mathbb{C}}M, \xi_{\mathbb{R}} \otimes \mathbb{C}) := \Theta(T_{\mathbb{C}}M) \otimes \bigotimes_{i=1}^r (\Lambda_{(+,0)}(\xi^{\otimes a_i}) \otimes \Lambda_{(+,1)}(\xi^{\otimes a_i}) \otimes \Lambda_{(-,1)}(\xi^{\otimes a_i})) \bigotimes_{j=1}^s \Lambda_{(-,0)}(\xi^{\otimes b_j}).$$

- For  $M^{4k}$ ,

$$\Theta_{\vec{a}, \vec{b}}(T_{\mathbb{C}}M, \xi_{\mathbb{R}} \otimes \mathbb{C}) := \Upsilon_{\vec{a}, \vec{b}}(T_{\mathbb{C}}M, \xi_{\mathbb{R}} \otimes \mathbb{C}) \otimes \Lambda_{(+,0)}(\xi) \otimes \Lambda_{(+,1)}(\xi) \otimes \Lambda_{(-,1)}(\xi);$$

- For  $M^{4k+2}$ ,

$$\Theta_{\vec{a}, \vec{b}}(T_{\mathbb{C}}M, \xi_{\mathbb{R}} \otimes \mathbb{C}) := \Upsilon_{\vec{a}, \vec{b}}(T_{\mathbb{C}}M, \xi_{\mathbb{R}} \otimes \mathbb{C}) \otimes \Lambda_{(-,0)}(\xi).$$

## D : generalized Witten genera, continued

- Generalized Witten forms

$$\mathcal{W}_{2k+1, \vec{a}, \vec{b}}^c(M) := \widehat{A}(M) e^{\frac{\xi}{2}} \prod_{j=1}^r \cosh\left(\frac{a_j c}{2}\right) \prod_{j=1}^s \sinh\left(\frac{b_j c}{2}\right) \cdot \text{ch}\left(\Theta_{\vec{a}, \vec{b}}(T_{\mathbb{C}}M, \xi_{\mathbb{R}} \otimes \mathbb{C})\right);$$

- Generalized Witten genera

$$\mathcal{W}_{2k+1, \vec{a}, \vec{b}}^c(M) = \int_M \mathcal{W}_{2k+1, \vec{a}, \vec{b}}^c(M).$$

### Modularity Theorem

The generalized Witten genera are integral modular forms of weight  $2m$  over  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$  up to a scalar  $1/2^{r+s}$  which only depends on  $k$ .

**Remark :** For  $(M^{4m}, k = 1)$  and  $(M^{4m+2}, k = 0)$ , the generalized Witten forms and genera, and their integrality and modularity reduce to those of CHZ respectively.

## E : Liu's type vanishing theorem

### Theorem (Duan-H-Huang)

Let  $(M, \xi, c)$  be a level  $2k + 1$  (strong)  $\text{String}^c$ -manifold such that  $2k + 1 > 0$ . If  $M$  admits an **effective positive** action of a **simply connected** compact Lie group that can be lifted to the  $\text{Spin}^c$  structure, then

$$W_{2k+1; \vec{a}, \vec{b}}^c(M) = 0.$$

### Positive condition of action inspired by Liu

Under the condition of the theorem, we have for  $G$ -equivariant characteristic classes

$$p_1(M)_G - (2k + 1)c_1(\xi)_G^2 = \alpha \cdot \pi^* q,$$

where  $\pi : M \times_G EG \rightarrow BG$ , and  $q \in H^4(BG)$  is the canonical generator. The  $G$ -action is **positive** if  $\alpha > 0$ .

## E : Remark on positive condition

$$p_1(M)_G - (2k + 1)c_1(\xi)_G^2 = \alpha \cdot \pi^* q, \quad (\alpha > 0).$$

### An example :

On  $M = \mathbb{C}P^{2n}$ , consider the  $\text{Spin}^c$ -structure  $(\mathbb{C}P^{2n}, c(\xi))$  determined by the stable almost complex structure

$$T\mathbb{C}P^{2n} \oplus \mathbb{R}^2 \cong \mathcal{O}(1) \oplus \cdots \oplus \mathcal{O}(1) \oplus \mathcal{O}(-1) \oplus \cdots \oplus \mathcal{O}(-1),$$

where there are  $n + 1$  many  $\mathcal{O}(1)$ ,  $n$ -many  $\mathcal{O}(-1)$ . Then

$c(\xi) = c_1(J) = x$  and  $\mathbb{C}P^{2n}$  is  $\text{String}^c$  of level  $2n + 1$ .

Now the linear action of  $SU(2n + 1)$  on  $\mathbb{C}P^{2n}$  preserves  $J$ , which is positive (indeed  $\alpha = 1$ ).

## Section 3

# Applications of generalized vanishing theorem

## G : applications to almost complex (a.c.) manifolds

### Theorem (Duan-H-Huang)

Let  $(M, J, c = c_1(J))$  be a level  $2k + 1$  (strong)  $\text{String}^c$  almost complex manifold such that  $2k + 1 > 0$ . If  $M$  admits an effective positive action of a simply connected compact Lie group that preserves the almost complex structure  $J$ , then

$$W_{2k+1; \vec{a}, \vec{b}}^c(M) = 0.$$

# G : applications to almost complex (a.c.) manifolds : a special case

## Theorem (Duan-H-Huang)

Let  $(M^{2n}, J)$  be a closed almost complex manifold, which is level  $2k + 1$   $\text{String}^c$ . Then if

- $2k - n \geq 18$ , and
- $c_1^n(J) \neq 0$  rationally,

$M$  does not admit a positive effective action of any **simply connected** compact Lie group preserving  $J$ .



## H : applications to homotopy projective spaces

A **complex homotopy projective space**  $M^{2n}$ , by definition, is a manifold  $M^{2n} \simeq \mathbb{C}P^n$ .

- The **Petrie conjecture** (1972) claims that if  $S^1$  acts effectively on a homotopy complex projective space  $X^{2n}$ , then the total Pontryagin class  $p(X^{2n}) = p(\mathbb{C}P^n)$ .
- The conjecture was proved for  $X^{2n}$  with  $n \leq 4$ , and by Hatorri (1978) when  $X^{2n}$  admits an  $S^1$ -invariant stable almost complex structure with  $c_1 = (n + 1)x$ .
- (Hatorri 1978) when  $c_1 = kx$  with  $|k| > n + 1$ ,  $X^{2n}$  admits no  $S^1$  action preserving  $J$ .

## H : applications to homotopy projective spaces

Dessai proved that :

If  $X^{4n}$  is a homotopy  $CP^{2n}$  and  $p_1 > (2n + 1)x^2$ , then  $X^{4n}$  does not support nontrivial smooth  $S^3$  action.

Using our vanishing theorem, we can reprove this result.

Just observe that  $X^{4n}$  is  $\text{String}^c$  of level  $(2n + 1) + 24\rho(X)$  and apply the above corollary.

# I : applications to prequantizable symplectic manifolds

## Theorem (Duan-H-Huang)

Let  $(M, \omega, c = [\omega])$  be a level  $2k + 1$  (strong)  $\text{String}^c$  prequantizable symplectic manifold such that  $2k + 1 > 0$ . Suppose  $M$  admits an effective symplectic action of a simply connected compact Lie group. If the action is Hamiltonian and positive, then

$$W_{2k+1; \vec{a}, \vec{b}}^c(M) = 0.$$

Thank you very much !