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Flops, Gromov-Witten Invariants and Symmetries of Line Bundle Cohomology on Calabi-Yau Three-folds

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The zeroth line bundle cohomology on Calabi-Yau three-folds encodes information about the existence of flop transitions and the genus zero Gromov-Witten invariants. We illustrate this claim by studying several Picard number 2 Calabi-Yau three-folds realised as complete intersections in products of projective spaces. Many of these manifolds exhibit certain symmetries on the Picard lattice which preserve the zeroth cohomology.

I. INTRODUCTION

It has long been known that the understanding of the massless states resulting from string compactifications relies on the understanding of certain cohomology groups on the internal space. To achieve this, one often has to go through lengthy computations of bundle-valued cohomology groups on Calabi-Yau three-folds. Various algebraic and topological tools can be employed to derive cohomology from local data, but such methods inevitably hide away much of the information encoded therein. The purpose of the present letter is to highlight the richness of structure present in the zeroth cohomology of line bundles on Calabi-Yau three-folds by case-studying a small number of Picard number two manifolds realised as complete intersections in products of projective spaces (CICY three-folds) [1, 2]. In particular, in these examples one can discern the presence of flops, the value of certain genus zero Gromov-Witten invariants, and the existence of symmetries in the cohomology data.

This study is part of the greater quest to understand the extent to which line bundle and more generally vector bundle cohomology can be expressed in terms of analytic formulae on spaces of interest in string theory. A systematic understanding of these formulae, for which we present the first steps in this work, will likely open up new approaches for bottom-up string model building. Initial evidence for the existence of such formulae has been obtained through a combination of direct observation [3–7] and machine learning [8, 9] of line bundle cohomology dimensions computed algorithmically on several classes

of two and three-dimensional complex manifolds, such as complete intersections in products of projective spaces, toric varieties and hypersurfaces therein, del Pezzo and Hirzebruch surfaces. Subsequently, for certain classes of surfaces widely used in string theory such as toric surfaces, weak Fano surfaces and K3 surfaces, explicit formulae describing all cohomology groups of line bundles have been established through rigorous proofs [10, 11].

Much less is currently understood about the structure of bundle cohomology on three-folds, except in the case of simple elliptic fibrations over two-dimensional bases [11] or for certain divisors on toric hypersurfaces [12]. The empirical evidence suggests that the Picard group can be divided into disjoint regions, in each of which the cohomology dimensions are described by functions that are polynomial or very close to polynomial in the first Chern class of the line bundle. This seems to be the case for the zeroth as well as for all higher cohomologies, though here we will only study the zeroth cohomology.

II. GENERALITIES

To set the scene, let $X \subset \mathcal{A}$ be a smooth CICY threefold defined as the common zero locus of several multi-homogeneous polynomials in the coordinates of the product space $\mathcal{A} = \mathbb{P}^{n_1} \times \cdots \times \mathbb{P}^{n_m}$. The multi-degrees of the defining polynomials can be recorded as the columns of a matrix, known as the configuration matrix, of the form

$$\begin{matrix} \mathbb{P}^{n_1} & \begin{bmatrix} q_1^1 & \cdots & q_R^1 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ q_1^m & \cdots & q_R^m \end{bmatrix} & h^{1,1}(X), h^{2,1}(X) \end{matrix} \quad (II.1)$$

where $h^{1,1}(X)$ and $h^{2,1}(X)$ are the two non-trivial Hodge numbers of X . The condition that X has vanishing first

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Chern class corresponds to the condition that the sum of the degrees in each row of the configuration matrix equals the dimension of the corresponding projective space plus one. All CICY three-folds are simply connected.

Holomorphic line bundles are specified by their first Chern class, which is an element of $H^2(X, \mathbb{Z})$. All Calabi-Yau manifolds $X \subset \mathcal{A}$ discussed in this letter benefit from being ‘favourably’ embedded, in the sense that a basis of $H^2(X, \mathbb{Z})$ can be obtained by pulling-back the Kähler two-forms of the hyperplane bundles over the \mathbb{P}^n factors of \mathcal{A} . We denote this basis by (D_1, D_2, \dots, D_m) for $\mathcal{A} = \mathbb{P}^{n_1} \times \dots \times \mathbb{P}^{n_m}$ and the dual basis of curve classes by (C_1, C_2, \dots, C_m) . The vast majority of CICY three-folds can be favourably embedded [13].

Several cones in $H^2(X, \mathbb{R})$ play an important role in the present discussion, whose definition we briefly review. The *Kähler cone* \mathcal{K} is the set of cohomology classes of smooth positive definite closed $(1,1)$ -forms. For all the manifolds studied below, the Kähler cone descends from the ambient product of projective spaces, which means \mathcal{K} is the positive span of $\{D_1, D_2, \dots, D_m\}$. The closure $\bar{\mathcal{K}}$ is the *nef cone*. A line bundle is nef if its first Chern class belongs to the nef cone. A line bundle is called *effective* if it has a global section or, equivalently, a non-vanishing zeroth cohomology.

If L is a line bundle in the interior of the nef cone, Kodaira’s vanishing theorem guarantees that all higher cohomologies are trivial and, consequently, $h^0(X, L) = \chi(X, L)$, where $\chi(X, L)$ is the Euler characteristic of L , which on a Calabi-Yau three-fold takes form

$$\chi(X, \mathcal{O}_X(D)) = \frac{1}{6}D^3 + \frac{1}{12}c_2(X) \cdot D. \quad (\text{II.2})$$

The Euler characteristic is a linear combination of two basic topological invariants on $H^2(X, \mathbb{Z})$, namely the cup-product cubic form $H^2(X, \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ given by $D \mapsto D^3$ and the linear form $c_2 : H^2(X, \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ given by $D \mapsto c_2(X) \cdot D$. It is known that a nef line bundle $L = \mathcal{O}_X(D)$ on a projective three-fold falls in the interior of the effective cone iff $D^3 > 0$ (see Thm. 2.2.16. in [14]).

We will make use of three important relations that hold when X and X' are related by a flop which contracts a finite number of disjoint \mathbb{P}^1 curves. First, since a flop is an isomorphism in co-dimension one, $H^2(X, \mathbb{R})$ and $H^2(X', \mathbb{R})$ can be identified. In the following, divisors identified in this way will be denoted by the same symbol, primed for X' and unprimed for X . Second, since the zeroth cohomology counts co-dimension one objects, it is preserved under the flop, that is, $h^0(X, \mathcal{O}_X(D)) = h^0(X', \mathcal{O}_{X'}(D'))$ where D' is the divisor on X' corresponding to D on X . Note the same is not true of higher cohomologies. Third, the above two forms have the following transformation rule,

$$\begin{aligned} D'^3 &= D^3 - \sum_i (D \cdot \mathcal{C}_i)^3 \\ c_2(X') \cdot D' &= c_2(X) \cdot D + 2 \sum_i D \cdot \mathcal{C}_i, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{II.3})$$

where $\mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{C}_2, \dots, \mathcal{C}_N$ are the isolated exceptional \mathbb{P}^1 curves with normal bundle $\mathcal{O}(-1) \oplus \mathcal{O}(-1)$ contracted in the flop [15, 16]. The Kähler cones $\mathcal{K}(X)$ and $\mathcal{K}(X')$ share a common wall. The change in the cup product cubic form corresponds in topological string theory to the statement that the A-model 3-point correlation function on $\mathcal{K}(X)$ may be analytically continued to give the A-model 3-point correlation function on $\mathcal{K}(X')$ [17].

III. THE MANIFOLD 7887.

In this example X is a generic Calabi-Yau hypersurface in the ambient space $\mathcal{A} = \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^3$ defined by the configuration matrix

$$\begin{matrix} \mathbb{P}^1 & \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}^{2,86} \quad (\text{III.1})$$

with identification number 7887 in the CICY list [1, 2].

If L is a line bundle over X , we write its first Chern class as $c_1(L) = k_1 D_1 + k_2 D_2$. Line bundle cohomology dimensions, computed algorithmically using the CICY package [18] for $-3 \leq k_1 \leq 4$, $-1 \leq k_2 \leq 9$ are shown in the chart below.

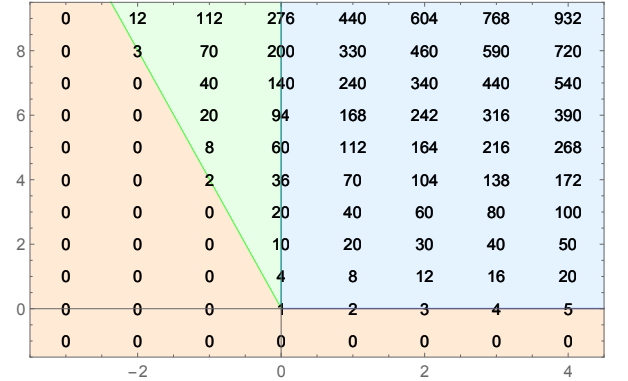


FIG. 1. Zeroth cohomology dimensions on the CICY manifold 7887. Blue region: Kähler cone $\mathcal{K}(X)$ of X . Green region: Kähler cone $\mathcal{K}(X')$ of the flopped space X' .

The positive quadrant (blue region in Fig. 1) corresponds to the Kähler cone of X . In this region we have $h^0(X, L) = \chi(X, L)$. The Euler characteristic is computed with the following topological data:

$$\begin{matrix} d_{111} & d_{112} & d_{122} & d_{222} & c_2 \cdot D_1 & c_2 \cdot D_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & 2 & 24 & 44 \end{matrix} \quad (\text{III.2})$$

where $d_{ijk} = D_i \cdot D_j \cdot D_k$. Along the horizontal boundary of the nef cone the cubic form $D \mapsto D^3$ vanishes, which indicates that this is also a boundary of the effective cone. The vertical boundary is shared with another cone (the green region in Fig. 1) which we conjecture to be the nef cone of a flopped Calabi-Yau three-fold X' . For line bundles L in this region this implies

$$h^0(X, L) = h^0(X', L') = \chi(X', L'). \quad (\text{III.3})$$

Indeed, fitting the cohomology data to the formula (II.2), one finds the following topological data for X'

$$\begin{array}{cccccc} d'_{111} & d'_{112} & d'_{122} & d'_{222} & c'_2 \cdot D'_1 & c'_2 \cdot D'_2 \\ -64 & 0 & 4 & 2 & 152 & 44 \end{array} \quad (\text{III.4})$$

where D'_i is the divisor on X' corresponding to the divisor D_i on X . These changes are consistent with the hypothesis that X and X' are related by a flop in which 64 isolated \mathbb{P}^1 curves with class C_1 are being contracted.

In fact, this is precisely the number of genus zero curves in the class C_1 , which can be interpreted as the corresponding Gromov-Witten invariant. It is easy to count these. Denoting the coordinates of the ambient space by (x_a, y_b) , with $a = 0, 1$ and $b = 0, 1, 2, 3$, the defining equation takes the form $x_0^2 P(y_b) + x_0 x_1 Q(y_b) + x_1^2 R(y_b) = 0$. When $P(y_b) = Q(y_b) = R(y_b) = 0$, there is an entire \mathbb{P}^1 worth of solution and, since P, Q, R have degree 4 this happens at precisely $4^3 = 64$ points in \mathbb{P}^3 .

The curve class C_1 is orthogonal to the wall separating the Kähler cones $\mathcal{K}(X)$ and $\mathcal{K}(X')$, which together form what is known in the Physics literature as the *extended Kähler cone* or, in the Mathematics literature, as the *movable cone*. The other boundary of $\mathcal{K}(X')$ corresponds to $k_2 = -4k_1$, with $k_1 \leq 0$, and along this edge the cup-product cubic form vanishes, indicating that this is also a boundary of the effective cone. This provides evidence in support of the claim that X has only two birational minimal models related by a flop. In particular, X is an example of a Mori dream space [19]. The boundaries of the effective cone are at finite distance, as measured with the moduli space metric, but it is evident from the intersection numbers in Eqs. (III.2) and (III.4) that the volume (proportional to $d_{ijk} t^i t^j t^k$ where t^i are the Kähler moduli) vanishes at the boundaries of the effective cone.

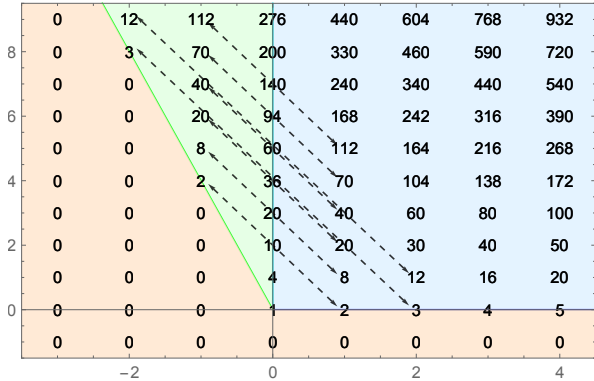


FIG. 2. A \mathbb{Z}_2 symmetry of the zeroth coh. for CICY 7887.

What can be said about the flopped manifold X' ? On general grounds, we know that it is a smooth Calabi-Yau three-fold with the same Hodge numbers as X . We also know the triple intersection numbers and the c_2 form, written in the basis $\{D'_1, D'_2\}$, as given in Eq. (III.4). Choosing as a basis of $H^2(X', \mathbb{Z})$ the generators of the Kähler cone $\mathcal{K}(X')$, namely $\tilde{D}_1 = -D'_1 + 4D'_2$ and

$\tilde{D}_2 = D'_2$, the triple intersection numbers and the c_2 form become identical to those of X . As such, X' and X are diffeomorphic to each other [20, 21].

It is not surprising then that the zeroth cohomology displays a \mathbb{Z}_2 symmetry

$$h^0(X, \mathcal{O}_X(\mathbf{k})) = h^0(X, \mathcal{O}_X(M\mathbf{k})) \quad (\text{III.5})$$

with generator

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ n & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (\text{III.6})$$

where $\mathbf{k} = (k_1, k_2)^T$ and $n = 4$ (see Fig. 2). This follows only for the zeroth cohomology, as these are preserved under a flop.

Finally, we write down explicit topological formulae for the zeroth cohomology of line bundles on X . Inside $\mathcal{K}(X)$, Kodaira's vanishing theorem guarantees that $h^0(X, L) = \chi(X, L)$. Similarly, inside $\mathcal{K}(X')$ we have $h^0(X, L) = h^0(X', L') = \chi(X', L')$ where L' is the line bundle on X' corresponding to L on X . The wall between the two Kähler cones falls in the interior of the effective cone and in this case the Kawamata-Viehweg vanishing theorem implies $h^0(X, L) = \chi(X, L) = \chi(X', L')$. For the trivial bundle $h^0(X, \mathcal{O}_X) = 1$, since X has a single connected component. For line bundles $L = \mathcal{O}_X(k_1 D_1)$ lying along the edge $k_1 > 0$, we have $h^0(X, L) = \chi(\mathbb{P}^1, k_1 H_{\mathbb{P}^1})$, where $H_{\mathbb{P}^1}$ is the hyperplane class in \mathbb{P}^1 , a result which can be traced back by sequence chasing. The \mathbb{Z}_2 symmetry (III.5) implies then that a similar relation must hold along the other boundary of the effective cone, $h^0(X, \mathcal{O}_X(k_1 D_1 - 4k_1 D_2)) = \chi(\mathbb{P}^1, -k_1 H_{\mathbb{P}^1})$, for $k_1 < 0$. We sum up these formulae in the following table:

region in eff. cone	$h^0(X, L = \mathcal{O}_X(k_1 D_1 + k_2 D_2))$
$\mathcal{K}(X)$	$\chi(X, L)$
$\mathcal{K}(X')$	$\chi(X', L')$
$k_1 = 0, k_2 > 0$	$\chi(X, L) = \chi(X', L')$
$k_1 < 0, k_2 = -4k_1$	$\chi(\mathbb{P}^1, -k_1 H_{\mathbb{P}^1})$
$k_1 > 0, k_2 = 0$	$\chi(\mathbb{P}^1, k_1 H_{\mathbb{P}^1})$
$k_1 = k_2 = 0$	1

Similar results, with varying values of n in Eq. (III.6), are obtained for 19 other Picard number 2 three-folds in the CICY list, namely those with identifiers 7643, 7668, 7725, 7758, 7806, 7808, 7816, 7819, 7822, 7823, 7833, 7844, 7853, 7867, 7869, 7882, 7883, 7886 and 7888.

IV. THE MANIFOLD 7885.

In this section X is a generic smooth Calabi-Yau three-fold belonging to the family described by the configuration matrix

$$\mathbb{P}^1 \left[\begin{array}{cc} 1 & 1 \\ 4 & 1 \end{array} \right]^{2,86} \quad (\text{IV.1})$$

with identifier 7885 in the CICY list.

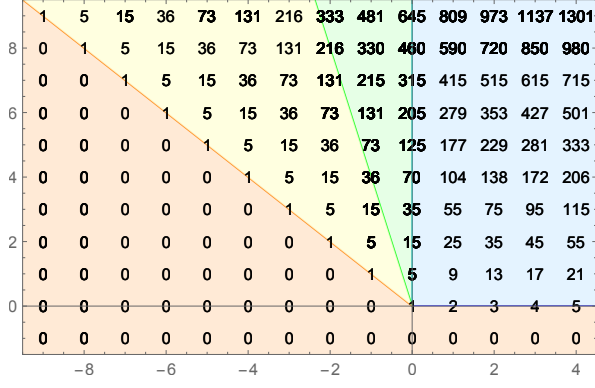


FIG. 3. Zeroth cohomology dimensions on 7885. In blue: $\mathcal{K}(X)$. In green: $\mathcal{K}'(X')$. In yellow: the Zariski chamber Σ .

As before, the positive quadrant corresponds to the Kähler cone $\mathcal{K}(X)$ where $h^0(X, L) = \chi(X, L)$ and the Euler characteristic is computed with the topological data:

$$\begin{array}{cccccc} d_{111} & d_{112} & d_{122} & d_{222} & c_2 \cdot D_1 & c_2 \cdot D_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & 5 & 24 & 50 \end{array} \quad (\text{IV.2})$$

Along the horizontal boundary of the nef cone $D^3 = 0$, hence this is also a boundary of the effective cone. The other boundary corresponds to a wall separating $\mathcal{K}(X)$ from what we conjecture to be the Kähler cone of a flopped manifold X' . Fitting the zeroth cohomology data to the Euler characteristic formula we find the following topological data for X'

$$\begin{array}{cccccc} d'_{111} & d'_{112} & d'_{122} & d'_{222} & c'_2 \cdot D'_1 & c'_2 \cdot D'_2 \\ -16 & 0 & 4 & 5 & 56 & 50 \end{array} \quad (\text{IV.3})$$

The changes in the triple intersection numbers and the c_2 form are consistent with the hypothesis that X and X' are related by a flop in which 16 isolated \mathbb{P}^1 curves with class C_1 are being contracted. This is indeed the genus zero Gromov-Witten invariant in the class C_1 .

The left boundary of $\mathcal{K}(X')$ is the edge $k_2 = -4k_1$, with $k_1 \leq 0$. The cup product cubic form does not vanish along this edge, which must then be contained inside the effective cone. This is consistent with the cohomology data shown in Figure 3 which indicates the presence of a third cone inside the effective cone, denoted by Σ .

In the remaining part of this section we need to distinguish between divisors and divisor classes. We continue to denote divisor classes by capital Latin letters, and use capital Greek letters for divisors.

The Kähler cones $\mathcal{K}(X)$ and $\mathcal{K}(X')$ together form the movable cone. It is known that effective integral divisor classes lying outside of the movable cone have fixed components. This is consistent with the presence of an irreducible rigid effective divisor Γ in the class $-D_1 + D_2$, which can be inferred from $h^0(X, \mathcal{O}_X(\Gamma)) = h^0(X', \mathcal{O}_{X'}(\Gamma')) = 1$.

The rigid divisor Γ is part of the fixed locus of every linear system in the cone Σ . The presence of Γ and the

amount by which it is present can be detected by intersection properties leading to a Zariski decomposition of every divisor class in Σ in the sense of [22]. We will not attempt to say anything general about the existence of the Zariski decomposition on three-folds which is a difficult problem in itself. However, the cohomology data in the yellow region of Fig. 3 shows an obvious pattern - it is constant along the diagonals - which is consistent with the following picture.

Let $\tilde{D}'_1 = -D'_1 + 4D'_2$ and $\tilde{D}'_2 = D'_2$ denote the generators of the nef cone $\bar{\mathcal{K}}(X')$ and let \tilde{C}'_1 and \tilde{C}'_2 denote the two dual curve classes, $\tilde{C}'_i \cdot \tilde{D}'_j = \delta_{ij}$, where the intersection is computed with the data (IV.3) for X' . Let Δ' be an effective divisor on X' with class $[\Delta'] = D'$ and assume it has a Zariski decomposition $\Delta' = \Pi' + N'$, where Π' and N' are \mathbb{Q} -divisors, Π' is nef, that is $[\Pi'] \in \bar{\mathcal{K}}(X')$ and $N' = \gamma\Gamma'$ is effective, $\gamma \in \mathbb{Q}^{\geq 0}$. Let $P' = [\Pi']$ and $N' = [N']$ denote the corresponding divisor classes.

From now on we assume that $D' \in \Sigma$, which is the case we are interested in. In this case, P' lies on the boundary shared by Σ and $\bar{\mathcal{K}}(X')$. From general properties of Zariski decomposition we know that

$$h^0(X', \mathcal{O}_{X'}(D')) = h^0(X', \mathcal{O}_{X'}([\Pi'])), \quad (\text{IV.4})$$

where $[\Pi']$ is the round down version of Π' . The round down version of a \mathbb{Q} -divisor is defined as the divisor obtained by rounding down all the coefficients in its expansion. In the context of Zariski decomposition, when D' is an integral divisor class, the class $[\Pi']$ is well-defined, as explained in [11].

In the $\{\tilde{D}'_1, \tilde{D}'_2\}$ basis, we have $[\Gamma'] = \tilde{D}'_1 - 3\tilde{D}'_2$ and P' is a rational multiple of \tilde{D}'_1 . Since $D' = P' + N'$ and $\tilde{D}'_1 \cdot \tilde{C}'_2 = 0$, it follows that $D' \cdot \tilde{C}'_2 = N' \cdot \tilde{C}'_2 = \gamma\Gamma' \cdot \tilde{C}'_2$, from which $\gamma = D' \cdot \tilde{C}'_2 / \Gamma' \cdot \tilde{C}'_2$. Consequently,

$$\begin{aligned} h^0(X', \mathcal{O}_{X'}(D')) &= h^0(X', \mathcal{O}_{X'}(D' - [\gamma]\Gamma')) \\ &= \chi\left(X', \mathcal{O}_{X'}\left(D' - \left\lfloor \frac{D' \cdot \tilde{C}'_2}{\Gamma' \cdot \tilde{C}'_2} \right\rfloor \Gamma'\right)\right), \end{aligned} \quad (\text{IV.5})$$

which is also equal to $h^0(X, \mathcal{O}_X(D))$, where D is the divisor class on X corresponding to D' on X' . With $D = k_1 D_1 + k_2 D_2$ it is straightforward to compute $\gamma = (4k_1 + k_2)/(-3)$.

We summarise the zeroth cohomology formulae on the manifold 7885 in the following table:

region in eff. cone	$h^0(X, L = \mathcal{O}_X(D = k_1 D_1 + k_2 D_2))$
$\mathcal{K}(X)$	$\chi(X, \mathcal{O}_X(D))$
$\bar{\mathcal{K}}(X') \setminus \{\mathcal{O}_X\}$	$\chi(X', \mathcal{O}_{X'}(D'))$
$\bar{\Sigma}$	$\chi\left(X', \mathcal{O}_{X'}\left(D' - \left\lfloor \frac{D' \cdot \tilde{C}'_2}{\Gamma' \cdot \tilde{C}'_2} \right\rfloor \Gamma'\right)\right)$
$k_1 > 0, k_2 = 0$	$\chi(\mathbb{P}^1, (D \cdot C_1)H_{\mathbb{P}^1})$
$k_1 = k_2 = 0$	1

Seven other Picard number 2 CICY three-folds, with the identifiers 7807, 7817, 7840, 7858, 7868, 7873 and 7883, can be treated in a similar way.

V. THE MANIFOLD 7863.

In this section X is a generic smooth Calabi-Yau three-fold belonging to the family described by the configuration matrix

$$\mathbb{P}^3 \left[\begin{array}{ccc} 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right]^{2,66} \quad (\text{V.1})$$

with identifier 7863 in the CICY list.

The manifold has an obvious (non-freely acting) \mathbb{Z}_2 symmetry inherited from an ambient space symmetry that exchanges the two \mathbb{P}^3 spaces. This symmetry is evident in the cohomology data shown in Figure 4.

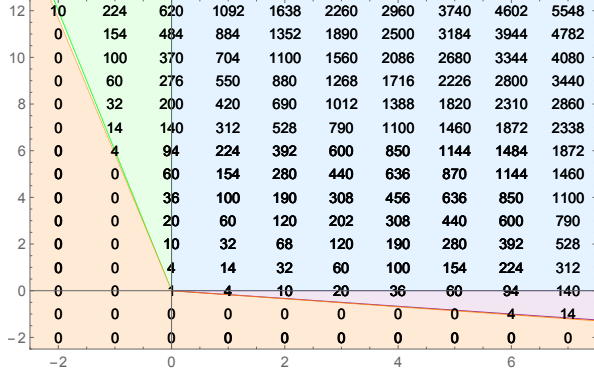


FIG. 4. Zeroth cohomology dimensions for the CICY manifold 7863.

In the Kähler cone $\mathcal{K}(X)$ (the blue region in Fig. 4), we have $h^0(X, L) = \chi(X, L)$ and the index is computed with the following topological data:

$$\begin{array}{cccccc} d_{111} & d_{112} & d_{122} & d_{222} & c_2 \cdot D_1 & c_2 \cdot D_2 \\ 2 & 6 & 6 & 2 & 44 & 44 \end{array} \quad (\text{V.2})$$

In this example the cup-product cubic form does not vanish along either of the two boundaries of the nef cone $\bar{\mathcal{K}}(X)$, hence neither of these is a boundary of the effective cone. There are two cones neighbouring $\mathcal{K}(X)$, which we denote by $\mathcal{K}(X'^{(1)})$ and $\mathcal{K}(X''^{(1)})$, with generators $\{(-1, 6), (0, 1)\}$ and $\{(6, -1), (1, 0)\}$, respectively. The reasons for using this slightly cumbersome notation will become evident in the following. As before, we conjecture that these regions are the Kähler cones of two flopped Calabi-Yau three-folds $X'^{(1)}$ and $X''^{(1)}$. Fitting the zeroth cohomology data to the Euler characteristic in these cones, the following topological data is obtained for $X'^{(1)}$ and $X''^{(1)}$:

$$\begin{array}{cccccc} d'_{111} & d'_{112} & d'_{122} & d'_{222} & c'_2 \cdot D'_1 & c'_2 \cdot D'_2 \\ -110 & 6 & 6 & 2 & 220 & 44 \end{array} \quad (\text{V.3})$$

$$\begin{array}{cccccc} d''_{111} & d''_{112} & d''_{122} & d''_{222} & c''_2 \cdot D''_1 & c''_2 \cdot D''_2 \\ 2 & 6 & 6 & -110 & 44 & 220 \end{array} \quad (\text{V.4})$$

Due to the underlying \mathbb{Z}_2 symmetry of the cohomology data, it is sufficient to focus on the manifold $X'^{(1)}$.

The changes in the topological numbers (V.3) are consistent with a flop between X and $X'^{(1)}$ in which a total of 84 isolated curves with normal bundle $\mathcal{O}(-1) \oplus \mathcal{O}(-1)$ are contracted, 80 of which are in the numerical class C_1 and 4 of which are in the numerical class $2C_1$. The number 80 does indeed match the genus zero Gromov-Witten invariant in class C_1 .

It is useful to recast the topological data (V.3) in a basis which uses the generators of the Kähler cone $\mathcal{K}(X'^{(1)})$, namely $\tilde{D}'_1 = -D'_1 + 6D'_2$ and $\tilde{D}'_2 = D'_2$. In this basis, the cup product cubic form and the c_2 form become identical to those on X , which indicates that X and $X'^{(1)}$ are diffeomorphic. As such the cohomology data must be invariant under the \mathbb{Z}_2 symmetry that exchanges D_1 and \tilde{D}_1 and fixes $D_2 = \tilde{D}_2$, which is

$$h^0(X, \mathcal{O}_X(\mathbf{k})) = h^0(X, \mathcal{O}_X(M_1 \mathbf{k})) \quad , \quad M_1 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ n_1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{V.5})$$

with $n_1 = 6$, mapping $\mathcal{K}(X)$ to $\mathcal{K}(X'^{(1)})$. Similarly, there is an involution

$$h^0(X, \mathcal{O}_X(\mathbf{k})) = h^0(X, \mathcal{O}_X(M_2 \mathbf{k})) \quad , \quad M_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & n_2 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{V.6})$$

with $n_2 = 6$, mapping $\mathcal{K}(X)$ to $\mathcal{K}(X''^{(1)})$.

The existence of these involutions has important consequences. Under M_1 , the Kähler cone $\mathcal{K}(X'^{(1)})$ must be mapped to a new cone, lying to the left of $\mathcal{K}(X'^{(1)})$ with generators $\{(-1, 6), (-6, 35)\}$, which we denote by $\mathcal{K}(X'^{(2)})$. Similarly, the image of $\mathcal{K}(X'^{(1)})$ under M_2 will be a new cone, lying below $\mathcal{K}(X''^{(1)})$, which we denote by $\mathcal{K}(X''^{(2)})$. These cones are very sharp and were not represented in Fig. 4.

The two involutions do not commute. Together, by acting on $\mathcal{K}(X)$ they generate two infinite series of Kähler cones $\mathcal{K}(X'^{(i)})$ and $\mathcal{K}(X''^{(i)})$, whose envelope is the (irrational) cone with generators $(-1, 3 + 2\sqrt{2})$ and $(1, -3 - 2\sqrt{2})$, which we conjecture to be the pseudo-effective cone of divisors. Each of the manifolds $X'^{(i)}$ and $X''^{(i)}$ is a birational model of X , diffeomorphic to X . This provides an example of a variety with an infinite number of Mori chambers.

In each of these Kähler cones, the zeroth line bundle cohomology can be computed as an index, for example $h^0(X, \mathcal{O}_X(D)) = \chi(X'^{(i)}, \mathcal{O}_{X'^{(i)}}(D'^{(i)}))$, for $D \in \mathcal{K}(X'^{(i)})$. The Euler characteristic can be easily computed, since in a basis of generators of $\mathcal{K}(X'^{(i)})$ the required topological data is identical with that of X given in (V.2) and the generators can be found iteratively by applying the two involutions. Similar statements hold for $D \in \mathcal{K}(X''^{(i)})$.

On each of the manifolds $X'^{(i)}$ the boundary of the Kähler cone is at a finite distance in moduli space. In fact, since the intersection form remains unchanged, these distances are the same for all $X'^{(i)}$. This means that the two boundaries of the effective cone are at an infinite distance in moduli space.

Several other CICY manifolds with Picard number 2, including those with identifiers 7644, 7726, 7759, 7761 and 7799 display similar features, with varying values of the numbers n_1 and n_2 in Eqs (V.5) and (V.6). For some of these $n_1 \neq n_2$, and there is no \mathbb{Z}_2 symmetry inherited from the ambient space.

VI. CONCLUSIONS

The main lesson to learn from the present work is that the zeroth line bundle cohomology on a Calabi-Yau three-fold X encodes a wealth of information about the flops connecting the birational models of X , as well as about certain Gromov-Witten invariants. This insight can facilitate the computation of the true effective cone, which in some cases is irrational. In all the cases studied here we were able to decompose the effective cone into cohomology chambers and express the zeroth line bundle cohomology as an index. These chambers were either Mori chambers (Kähler cones of birational models of X) or Zariski chambers. In many cases, there are symmetries relating the cohomology dimensions between different Mori chambers. On the manifold 7863 the number of Mori chambers turned out to be infinite. These results are the first steps towards a general prescription or possibly “master formula” which allows deriving analytical cohomology formulae for three-folds, in terms of basic topological quantities such as the intersection numbers.

Some words of caution are in order. Most of the results presented here are grounded in the calculation of a small number of line bundle cohomology dimensions and hence have a conjectural character. However, we have performed many non-trivial checks which indicate that the general picture is correct.

Out of the 36 Picard number 2 families of CICY three-folds, in 34 cases the above techniques allow a description of all zeroth cohomologies. This includes the bicubic (the Calabi-Yau hypersurface of degree (3, 3) in $\mathbb{P}^2 \times \mathbb{P}^2$), which is particularly simple as in this case the effective and the nef cones overlap. On the remaining 2 families of manifolds, with identifiers 7821 and 7809, there are computational difficulties in finding a sufficient number of cohomology values to facilitate the analysis.

We note in passing that the CICY with identifier 7887, treated above as an example, admits a complex structure tuning in which the 64 flopping curves coalesce into a divisor, as discussed further in Ref. [23]. The flop is then replaced by an ‘elementary transformation’, which in particular signals the presence of a symmetry on the entire complex structure and Kähler moduli space, as discussed in Ref. [24] and references therein, and which hence can be seen to imply the symmetry in cohomology on the generic CICY discussed in Section III. It would be interesting to investigate whether other cases of symmetry in cohomology arise in a similar manner.

It remains to be seen how much of the present discussion can be generalised to other Calabi-Yau three-folds, including examples with larger Picard number. There are preliminary indications that similar structures can be found in CICY three-folds with Picard number 3. Exploring higher cohomology is another important topic to which we would like to return in a future publication.

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