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## Differential forms on universal K3 surfaces

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### Abstract

We give a vanishing and classification result for holomorphic differential forms on smooth projective models of the moduli spaces of pointed K3 surfaces. We prove that there is no nonzero holomorphic k-form for 0 < k < 10 and for even k > 19. In the remaining cases, we give an isomorphism between the space of holomorphic k-forms with that of vector-valued modular forms  $(10 \le k \le 18)$  or scalar-valued cusp forms  $(\text{odd } k \ge 19)$  for the modular group. These results are in fact proved in the generality of lattice-polarisation.

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## 1. Introduction

Let  $\mathcal{F}_{g,n}$  be the moduli space of n-pointed K3 surfaces of genus g > 2, i.e., primitively polarised of degree 2g - 2. It is a quasi-projective variety of dimension 19 + 2n with a natural morphism  $\mathcal{F}_{g,n} \to \mathcal{F}_g$  to the moduli space  $\mathcal{F}_g$  of K3 surfaces of genus g, which is generically a  $K3^n$ -fibration. In this paper we study holomorphic differential k-forms on a smooth projective model of  $\mathcal{F}_{g,n}$ . They do not depend on the choice of a smooth projective model, and thus are fundamental birational invariants of  $\mathcal{F}_{g,n}$ . We prove a vanishing result for about half of the values of the degree k, and for the remaining degrees give a correspondence with modular forms on the period domain.

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Our main result is stated as follows.

THEOREM 1·1. Let  $\bar{\mathcal{F}}_{g,n}$  be a smooth projective model of  $\mathcal{F}_{g,n}$  with g > 2. Then we have a natural isomorphism:

$$H^{0}(\bar{\mathcal{F}}_{g,n}, \Omega^{k}) \simeq \begin{cases} 0 & 0 < k \leq 9 \\ M_{\wedge^{k},k}(\Gamma_{g}) & 10 \leq k \leq 18 \\ 0 & k > 19, \ k \in 2\mathbb{Z} \\ S_{19+m}(\Gamma_{g}, \det) \otimes \mathbb{C}S_{n,m} & k = 19 + 2m, \ 0 \leq m \leq n \end{cases}$$
 (1·1)

Here  $\Gamma_g$  is the modular group for K3 surfaces of genus g, which is defined as the kernel of  $O^+(L_g) \to O(L_g^\vee/L_g)$  where  $L_g = 2U \oplus 2E_8 \oplus \langle 2-2g \rangle$  is the period lattice of K3 surfaces of genus g. In the second case,  $M_{\wedge^k,k}(\Gamma_g)$  stands for the space of vector-valued modular forms of weight  $(\wedge^k,k)$  for  $\Gamma_g$  (see [4]). In the last case,  $S_{19+m}(\Gamma_g, \det)$  stands for the space of scalar-valued cusp forms of weight 19+m and determinant character for  $\Gamma_g$ , and  $S_{n,m}$  stands for the right quotient  $\mathfrak{S}_n/(\mathfrak{S}_m \times \mathfrak{S}_{n-m})$ , which is a left  $\mathfrak{S}_n$ -set. Theorem  $1\cdot 1$  is actually formulated and proved in the generality of lattice-polarisation (Theorem  $2\cdot 6$ ).

In the case of the top degree k=19+2n, namely for canonical forms, the isomorphism  $(1\cdot 1)$  is proved in [2]. Theorem  $1\cdot 1$  is the extension of this result to all degrees k<19+2n. The spaces in the right-hand side of  $(1\cdot 1)$  can also be geometrically explained as follows. In the case  $k\leq 18$ ,  $M_{\wedge^k,k}(\Gamma_g)$  is identified with the space of holomorphic k-forms on a smooth projective model of  $\mathcal{F}_g$ , pulled back by  $\mathcal{F}_{g,n}\to\mathcal{F}_g$ . In the case k=19+2m,  $S_{19+m}(\Gamma_g, \det)$  is identified with the space of canonical forms on  $\bar{\mathcal{F}}_{g,m}$ , and the tensor product  $S_{19+m}(\Gamma_g, \det)\otimes\mathbb{C}S_{n,m}$  is the direct sum of pullback of such canonical forms by various projections  $\mathcal{F}_{g,n}\to\mathcal{F}_{g,m}$ . Therefore Theorem  $1\cdot 1$  can be understood as a kind of classification result which says that except for canonical forms, there are essentially no new differential forms on the tower  $(\mathcal{F}_{g,n})_n$  of moduli spaces. In fact, this is how the proof proceeds.

The space  $S_l(\Gamma_g, \det)$  is nonzero for every sufficiently large l, so the space  $H^0(\bar{\mathcal{F}}_{g,n}, \Omega^k)$  for odd  $k \ge 19$  is typically nonzero (at least when k is large). On the other hand, it is not clear at present whether  $M_{\wedge^k,k}(\Gamma_g) \ne 0$  or not in the range  $10 \le k \le 18$ . This is a subject of study in the theory of vector-valued orthogonal modular forms.

The isomorphism  $(1\cdot 1)$  in the case k=19+2m is an  $\mathfrak{S}_n$ -equivariant isomorphism, where  $\mathfrak{S}_n$  acts on  $H^0(\bar{\mathcal{F}}_{g,n},\Omega^k)$  by its permutation action on  $\mathcal{F}_{g,n}$ , while it acts on  $S_{19+m}(\Gamma_g,\det)\otimes \mathbb{C}S_{n,m}$  by its natural left action on  $S_{n,m}$ . Therefore, taking the  $\mathfrak{S}_n$ -invariant part, we obtain the following simpler result for the unordered pointed moduli space  $\mathcal{F}_{g,n}/\mathfrak{S}_n$ , which is birationally a  $K3^{[n]}$ -fibration over  $\mathcal{F}_g$ .

COROLLARY 1.2. Let  $\overline{\mathcal{F}_{g,n}/\mathfrak{S}_n}$  be a smooth projective model of  $\mathcal{F}_{g,n}/\mathfrak{S}_n$ . Then we have a natural isomorphism:

$$H^{0}(\overline{\mathcal{F}_{g,n}/\mathfrak{S}_{n}},\Omega^{k}) \simeq \begin{cases} 0 & 0 < k \leq 9 \\ M_{\wedge^{k},k}(\Gamma_{g}) & 10 \leq k \leq 18 \\ 0 & k > 19, \ k \in 2\mathbb{Z} \\ S_{19+m}(\Gamma_{g},\det) & k = 19 + 2m, \ 0 \leq m \leq n \end{cases}.$$

The universal K3 surface  $\mathcal{F}_{g,1}$  is an analogue of elliptic modular surfaces ([6]), and the moduli spaces  $\mathcal{F}_{g,n}$  for general n are analogues of the so-called Kuga varieties over modular curves ([7]). Starting with the case of elliptic modular surfaces [6], holomorphic differential forms on the Kuga varieties have been described in terms of elliptic modular forms: [7] for canonical forms, and [1] for the case of lower degrees (somewhat implicitly). Theorem  $1\cdot 1$  can be regarded as a K3 version of these results.

As a final remark, in view of the analogy between universal K3 surfaces and elliptic modular surfaces, invoking the classical fact that elliptic modular surfaces have maximal Picard number ([6]) now raises the question if  $H^{k,0}(\bar{\mathcal{F}}_{g,n}) \oplus H^{0,k}(\bar{\mathcal{F}}_{g,n})$  is a sub  $\mathbb{Q}$ -Hodge structure of  $H^k(\bar{\mathcal{F}}_{g,n},\mathbb{C})$ . This is independent of the choice of a smooth projective model  $\bar{\mathcal{F}}_{g,n}$ .

The rest of this paper is devoted to the proof of Theorem 1·1. In Section 2·1 we compute a part of the holomorphic Leray spectral sequence associated to a certain type of  $K3^n$ -fibration. This is the main step of the proof. In Section 2·2 we study differential forms on a compactification of such a fibration. In Section 2·3 we deduce (a generalised version of) Theorem 1·1 by combining the result of Section 2·2 with some results from [2–5]. Sometimes we drop the subscript X from the notation  $\Omega_X^k$  when the variety X is clear from the context.

# 2. Proof

## 2.1. Holomorphic Leray spectral sequence

Let  $\pi: X \to B$  be a smooth family of K3 surfaces over a smooth connected base B. In this subsection X and B may be analytic. We put the following assumption:

Condition  $2 \cdot 1$ . In a neighbourhood of every point of B, the period map is an embedding.

This is equivalent to the condition that the differential of the period map

$$T_b B \to \text{Hom}(H^{2,0}(X_b), H^{1,1}(X_b))$$

is injective for every  $b \in B$ , where  $X_b$  is the fiber of  $\pi$  over b.

For a natural number n > 0 we denote by  $X_n = X \times_B \cdots \times_B X$  the n-fold fiber product of X over B, and let  $\pi_n \colon X_n \to B$  be the projection. We denote by  $\Omega_{\pi_n}$  the relative cotangent bundle of  $\pi_n$ , and  $\Omega_{\pi_n}^p = \wedge^p \Omega_{\pi_n}$  for  $p \ge 0$  as usual.

PROPOSITION 2-2. Let  $\pi: X \to B$  be a K3 fibration satisfying Condition 2-1. Then we have a natural isomorphism:

$$(\pi_n)_*\Omega^k_{X_n} \simeq \begin{cases} \Omega^k_B & k \leq \dim B \\ 0 & k > \dim B, \ k \not\equiv \dim B \mod 2 \\ K_B \otimes (\pi_n)_*\Omega^{2m}_{\pi_n} & k = \dim B + 2m, \ 0 \leq m \leq n \end{cases}$$

This assertion amounts to a partial degeneration of the holomorphic Leray spectral sequence. Recall ([8, section 5·2]) that  $\Omega^k_{X_n}$  has the holomorphic Leray filtration  $L^{\bullet}\Omega^k_{X_n}$  defined by

$$L^l\Omega_{X_n}^k = \pi_n^*\Omega_B^l \wedge \Omega_{X_n}^{k-l},$$

whose graded quotients are naturally isomorphic to

$$\operatorname{Gr}_L^l \Omega_{X_n}^k = \pi_n^* \Omega_B^l \otimes \Omega_{\pi_n}^{k-l}.$$

This filtration induces the holomorphic Leray spectral sequence

$$(E_r^{l,q}, d_r) \Rightarrow E_{\infty}^{l+q} = R^{l+q} (\pi_n)_* \Omega_{X_n}^k$$

which converges to the filtration

$$L^{l}R^{l+q}(\pi_{n})_{*}\Omega_{X_{n}}^{k} = \operatorname{Im}(R^{l+q}(\pi_{n})_{*}L^{l}\Omega_{X_{n}}^{k} \to R^{l+q}(\pi_{n})_{*}\Omega_{X_{n}}^{k}).$$

By [8, proposition 5.9], the  $E_1$  page coincides with the collection of the Koszul complexes associated to the variation of Hodge structures for  $\pi_n$ :

$$(E_1^{l,q}, d_1) = (\mathcal{H}^{k-l, l+q} \otimes \Omega_B^l, \bar{\nabla}). \tag{2.1}$$

Here  $\mathcal{H}^{*,*}$  are the Hodge bundles associated to the fibration  $\pi_n \colon X_n \to B$ , and

$$\bar{\nabla}:\mathcal{H}^{*,*}\otimes\Omega_B^*\to\mathcal{H}^{*-1,*+1}\otimes\Omega_B^{*+1}$$

are the differentials in the Koszul complexes (see [8, section  $5 \cdot 1 \cdot 3$ ]). For degree reasons, the range of (l, q) in the  $E_1$  page satisfies the inequalities

$$0 \le l \le \dim B$$
,  $0 \le k - l \le 2n$ ,  $0 \le l + q \le 2n$ .

The first two can be unified:

$$\max(0, k - 2n) \le l \le \min(\dim B, k), \quad 0 \le l + q \le 2n. \tag{2.2}$$

We calculate the  $E_1$  to  $E_2$  pages on the edge line l+q=0.

LEMMA 2.3. The following holds:

- (1)  $E_1^{l,-l} = 0$  when  $l \le \min(\dim B, k)$  with  $l \not\equiv k \mod 2$ ;
- (2)  $E_2^{l,-l} = 0$  when  $l < \min(\dim B, k)$ ;
- (3) For  $l_0 = \min(\dim B, k)$  we have  $E_1^{l_0, -l_0} = E_2^{l_0, -l_0} = \dots = E_{\infty}^{l_0, -l_0}$ .

*Proof.* By (2·1), we have  $E_1^{l,-l} = \mathcal{H}^{k-l,0} \otimes \Omega_B^l$ . By the Künneth formula, the fiber of  $\mathcal{H}^{k-l,0}$  over a point  $b \in B$  is identified with

$$H^{k-l,0}(X_b^n) = \bigoplus_{(p_1, \dots, p_n)} H^{p_1,0}(X_b) \otimes \dots \otimes H^{p_n,0}(X_b), \tag{2.3}$$

where  $(p_1, \dots, p_n)$  ranges over all indices with  $\sum_i p_i = k - l$  and  $0 \le p_i \le 2$ .

- (1) When k-l is odd, every index  $(p_1, \dots, p_n)$  in  $(2\cdot 3)$  must contain a component  $p_i = 1$ . Since  $H^{1,0}(X_b) = 0$ , we see that  $H^{k-l,0}(X_b^n) = 0$ . Therefore  $\mathcal{H}^{k-l,0} = 0$  when k-l is odd.
- (3) Let  $l_0 = \min(\dim B, k)$ . By the range (2·2) of (l, q), we see that for every  $r \ge 1$  the source of  $d_r$  that hits  $E_r^{l_0, -l_0}$  is zero, and the target of  $d_r$  that starts from  $E_r^{l_0, -l_0}$  is also zero. This proves our assertion.
- (2) Let  $l < \min(\dim B, k)$ . In view of (1), we may assume that l = k 2m for some m > 0. By (2·2), the source of  $d_1$  that hits  $E_1^{l,-l}$  is zero. We shall show that  $d_1: E_1^{l,-l} \to E_1^{l+1,-l}$  is

injective. By  $(2\cdot1)$ , this morphism is identified with

$$\bar{\nabla}: \mathcal{H}^{2m,0} \otimes \Omega_R^l \to \mathcal{H}^{2m-1,1} \otimes \Omega_R^{l+1}. \tag{2.4}$$

By the Künneth formula as in (2·3), the fibers of the Hodge bundles  $\mathcal{H}^{2m,0}$ ,  $\mathcal{H}^{2m-1,1}$  over  $b \in B$  are respectively identified with

$$H^{2m,0}(X_b^n) = \bigoplus_{|\sigma|=m} H^{2,0}(X_b)^{\otimes \sigma},$$
 (2.5)

$$H^{2m-1,1}(X_b^n) = \bigoplus_{|\sigma'|=m-1} \bigoplus_{i \notin \sigma'} H^{2,0}(X_b)^{\otimes \sigma'} \otimes H^{1,1}(X_b)$$

$$= \bigoplus_{|\sigma|=m} \bigoplus_{i \in \sigma} H^{2,0}(X_b)^{\otimes \sigma - \{i\}} \otimes H^{1,1}(X_b).$$
(2.6)

In (2.5),  $\sigma$  ranges over all subsets of  $\{1, \dots, n\}$  consisting of m elements, and  $H^{2,0}(X_b)^{\otimes \sigma}$  stands for the tensor product of  $H^{2,0}(X_b)$  for the jth factors  $X_b$  of  $X_b^n$  over all  $j \in \sigma$ . The notations  $\sigma'$ ,  $\sigma$  in (2.6) are similar, and  $H^{1,1}(X_b)$  in (2.6) is the  $H^{1,1}$  of the ith factor  $X_b$  of  $X_b^n$ .

Let us write  $V = H^{2,0}(X_b)$  and  $W = (T_b B)^{\vee}$  for simplicity. The homomorphism (2.4) over  $b \in B$  is written as

$$\bigoplus_{|\sigma|=m} \left( V^{\otimes \sigma} \otimes \wedge^{l} W \to \bigoplus_{i \in \sigma} V^{\otimes \sigma - \{i\}} \otimes H^{1,1}(X_{b}) \otimes \wedge^{l+1} W \right). \tag{2.7}$$

By [8, lemma 5.8], the  $(\sigma, i)$ -component

$$V^{\otimes \sigma} \otimes \wedge^{l} W \to V^{\otimes \sigma - \{i\}} \otimes H^{1,1}(X_b) \otimes \wedge^{l+1} W \tag{2.8}$$

factorises as

$$V^{\otimes \sigma} \otimes \wedge^{l} W \to V^{\otimes \sigma - \{i\}} \otimes H^{1,1}(X_b) \otimes W \otimes \wedge^{l} W$$
$$\to V^{\otimes \sigma - \{i\}} \otimes H^{1,1}(X_b) \otimes \wedge^{l+1} W,$$

where the first map is induced by the adjunction  $V \to H^{1,1}(X_b) \otimes W$  of the differential of the period map for the *i*th factor  $X_b$ , and the second map is induced by the wedge product  $W \otimes \wedge^l W \to \wedge^{l+1} W$ . By linear algebra, this composition can also be decomposed as

$$V^{\otimes \sigma} \otimes \wedge^{l} W \to V^{\otimes \sigma - \{i\}} \otimes V \otimes W^{\vee} \otimes \wedge^{l+1} W$$

$$\to V^{\otimes \sigma - \{i\}} \otimes H^{1,1}(X_{b}) \otimes \wedge^{l+1} W,$$

$$(2.9)$$

where the first map is induced by the adjunction  $\wedge^l W \to W^\vee \otimes \wedge^{l+1} W$  of the wedge product, and the second map is induced by the adjunction  $V \otimes W^\vee \to H^{1,1}(X_b)$  of the differential of the period map. By our initial Condition  $2\cdot 1$ , the second map of  $(2\cdot 9)$  is injective. Moreover, since  $l+1 \leq \dim W$  by our assumption, the wedge product  $\wedge^l W \times W \to \wedge^{l+1} W$  is nondegenerate, so its adjunction  $\wedge^l W \to W^\vee \otimes \wedge^{l+1} W$  is injective. Thus the first map of  $(2\cdot 9)$  is also injective. It follows that  $(2\cdot 8)$  is injective. Since the map  $(2\cdot 7)$  is the direct sum of its  $(\sigma, i)$ -components, it is injective. This finishes the proof of Lemma  $2\cdot 3$ .

We can now complete the proof of Proposition  $2 \cdot 2$ .

*Proof of Proposition* 2·2. By Lemma 2·3 (2), we have  $E_{\infty}^{l,-l} = 0$  when  $l < l_0 = \min(\dim B, k)$ . Together with Lemma 2·3 (3), we obtain

$$(\pi_n)_*\Omega_{X_n}^k = E_\infty^0 = E_\infty^{l_0,-l_0} = E_1^{l_0,-l_0}.$$

When  $k \le \dim B$ , we have  $l_0 = k$ , and  $E_1^{l_0, -l_0} = \Omega_B^k$  by (2·1). When  $k > \dim B$ , we have  $l_0 = \dim B$ , and  $E_1^{l_0, -l_0} = \mathcal{H}^{k-\dim B, 0} \otimes K_B$  by (2·1). When  $k - \dim B$  is odd, this vanishes by Lemma 2·3 (1).

In the case  $k = \dim B + 2m$ , the vector bundle  $\mathcal{H}^{2m,0} \otimes K_B = (\pi_n)_* \Omega_{\pi_n}^{2m} \otimes K_B$  can be written more specifically as follows. For a subset  $\sigma$  of  $\{1, \dots, n\}$  with cardinality  $|\sigma| = m$ , we denote by  $X_{\sigma} \simeq X_m$  the fiber product of the *i*th factors  $X \to B$  of  $X_n \to B$  over all  $i \in \sigma$ . We denote by

$$X_n \stackrel{\pi_\sigma}{\to} X_\sigma \stackrel{\pi^\sigma}{\to} B$$

the natural projections. The Künneth formula (2.5) says that

$$(\pi_n)_*\Omega_{\pi_n}^{2m}\simeq igoplus_{|\sigma|=m}\pi_*^\sigma K_{\pi^\sigma}.$$

Combining this with the isomorphism

$$\pi_*^{\sigma} K_{X_{\sigma}} \simeq K_B \otimes \pi_*^{\sigma} K_{\pi^{\sigma}} \tag{2.10}$$

for each  $X_{\sigma}$ , we can rewrite the isomorphism in the last case of Proposition 2.2 as

$$(\pi_n)_* \Omega_{X_n}^{\dim B + 2m} \simeq \bigoplus_{|\sigma| = m} \pi_*^{\sigma} K_{X_{\sigma}}. \tag{2.11}$$

## 2.2. Extension over compactification

Let  $\pi: X \to B$  be a K3 fibration as in Section 2.1. We now assume that X, B are quasi-projective and  $\pi$  is a morphism of algebraic varieties. We take smooth projective compactifications of  $X_n, X_\sigma, B$  and denote them by  $\bar{X}_n, \bar{X}_\sigma, \bar{B}$  respectively.

PROPOSITION 2.4. We have

$$H^{0}(\bar{X}_{n}, \Omega^{k}) \simeq \begin{cases} H^{0}(\bar{B}, \Omega^{k}) & k \leq \dim B \\ 0 & k > \dim B, \ k \not\equiv \dim B \mod 2 \\ \bigoplus_{\sigma} H^{0}(\bar{X}_{\sigma}, K_{\bar{X}_{\sigma}}) & k = \dim B + 2m, \ 0 \leq m \leq n \end{cases}$$

In the last case,  $\sigma$  ranges over all subsets of  $\{1, \dots, n\}$  with  $|\sigma| = m$ . The isomorphism in the first case is given by the pullback by  $\pi_n \colon X_n \to B$ , and the isomorphism in the last case is given by the direct sum of the pullbacks by  $\pi_\sigma \colon X_n \to X_\sigma$  for all  $\sigma$ .

*Proof.* The assertion in the case  $k > \dim B$  with  $k \not\equiv \dim B$  mod 2 follows directly from the second case of Proposition 2·2. Next we consider the case  $k \le \dim B$ . We may assume that  $\pi_n \colon X_n \to B$  extends to a surjective morphism  $\bar{X}_n \to \bar{B}$ . Let  $\omega$  be a holomorphic k-form on  $\bar{X}_n$ . By the first case of Proposition 2·2, we have  $\omega|_{X_n} = \pi_n^* \omega_B$  for a holomorphic

k-form  $\omega_B$  on B. Since  $\omega$  is holomorphic over  $\bar{X}_n$ ,  $\omega_B$  is holomorphic over  $\bar{B}$  as well by a standard property of holomorphic differential forms. (Otherwise  $\omega$  must have pole at the divisors of  $\bar{X}_n$  dominating the divisors of  $\bar{B}$  where  $\omega_B$  has pole.) Therefore the pullback  $H^0(\bar{B}, \Omega^k) \to H^0(\bar{X}_n, \Omega^k)$  is surjective.

Finally, we consider the case  $k = \dim B + 2m$ ,  $0 \le m \le n$ . Let  $\omega$  be a holomorphic k-form on  $\bar{X}_n$ . By (2·11), we can uniquely write  $\omega|_{X_n} = \sum_{\sigma} \pi_{\sigma}^* \omega_{\sigma}$  for some canonical forms  $\omega_{\sigma}$  on  $X_{\sigma}$ .

Claim 2.5. For each  $\sigma$ ,  $\omega_{\sigma}$  is holomorphic over  $\bar{X}_{\sigma}$ .

*Proof.* We identify  $X_n$  with the fiber product  $X_\sigma \times_B X_\tau$  where  $\tau = \{1, \dots, n\} - \sigma$  is the complement of  $\sigma$ . We may assume that this fiber product diagram extends to a commutative diagram of surjective morphisms

$$egin{array}{cccc} ar{X}_n & \stackrel{\pi_{ au}}{\longrightarrow} & ar{X}_{ au} \\ & & \downarrow_{\pi^{ au}} & & \downarrow_{\pi^{ au}} \\ ar{X}_{\sigma} & \stackrel{\pi^{\sigma}}{\longrightarrow} & ar{B} & & \end{array}$$

between smooth projective models. We take an irreducible subvariety  $\tilde{B} \subset \bar{X}_{\tau}$  such that  $\tilde{B} \to \bar{B}$  is surjective and generically finite. Then  $\pi_{\tau}^{-1}(\tilde{B}) \subset \bar{X}_n$  has a unique irreducible component dominating  $\tilde{B}$ . We take its desingularisation and denote it by Y. By construction  $\pi_{\sigma}|_{Y} : Y \to \bar{X}_{\sigma}$  is dominant (and so surjective) and generically finite. On the other hand, for any  $\sigma' \neq \sigma$  with  $|\sigma'| = m$ , the projection  $\pi_{\sigma'}|_{Y} : Y \dashrightarrow X_{\sigma'}$  is not dominant. Indeed, such  $\sigma'$  contains at least one component  $i \in \tau$ , so if  $Y \dashrightarrow X_{\sigma'}$  was dominant, then the ith projection  $Y \dashrightarrow X$  would be also dominant, which is absurd because it factorises as  $Y \to \tilde{B} \subset \bar{X}_{\tau} \dashrightarrow X$ .

We pullback the differential form  $\omega = \pi_{\sigma}^* \omega_{\sigma} + \sum_{\sigma' \neq \sigma} \pi_{\sigma'}^* \omega_{\sigma'}$  to Y and denote it by  $\omega|_Y$ . Since  $\omega$  is holomorphic over  $\bar{X}_n$ ,  $\omega|_Y$  is holomorphic over Y. Since  $\pi_{\sigma'}^* \omega_{\sigma'}|_Y$  is the pullback of the canonical form  $\omega_{\sigma'}$  on  $X_{\sigma'}$  by the non-dominant map  $Y \dashrightarrow X_{\sigma'}$ , it vanishes identically. Hence  $\pi_{\sigma}^* \omega_{\sigma}|_Y = \omega|_Y$  is holomorphic over Y. Since  $\pi_{\sigma}|_Y : Y \to \bar{X}_{\sigma}$  is surjective, this implies that  $\omega_{\sigma}$  is holomorphic over  $\bar{X}_{\sigma}$  as before.

The above argument will be clear if we consider over the generic point  $\eta$  of B: we restrict  $\omega$  to the fiber of  $(X_{\eta})^n \to (X_{\eta})^{\tau}$  over the geometric point  $\tilde{B}$  of  $(X_{\eta})^{\tau}$  over  $\eta$ .

By Claim 2.5, the pullback

$$(\pi_{\sigma}^*)_{\sigma}$$
:  $\bigoplus_{|\sigma|=m} H^0(\bar{X}_{\sigma}, K_{\bar{X}_{\sigma}}) \to H^0(\bar{X}_n, \Omega^{\dim B+2m})$ 

is surjective. It is also injective as implied by (2.11). This proves Proposition 2.4.

## 2.3. Universal K3 surface.

Now we prove Theorem 1·1, in the generality of lattice-polarisation. Let L be an even lattice of signature (2, d) which can be embedded as a primitive sublattice of the K3 lattice  $3U \oplus 2E_8$ . We denote by

$$\mathcal{D} = \{ \mathbb{C}\omega \in \mathbb{P}L_{\mathbb{C}} \mid (\omega, \omega) = 0, (\omega, \bar{\omega}) > 0 \}^{+}$$

the Hermitian symmetric domain associated to L, where + means a connected component.

Let  $\pi: X \to B$  be a smooth projective family of K3 surfaces over a smooth quasiprojective connected base B. We say ([3]) that the family  $\pi: X \to B$  is *lattice-polarised* with period lattice L if there exists a sub local system  $\Lambda$  of  $R^2\pi_*\mathbb{Z}$  such that each fiber  $\Lambda_b$ is a hyperbolic sublattice of the Néron-Severi lattice  $NS(X_b)$  and the fibers of the orthogonal complement  $\Lambda^{\perp}$  are isometric to L. Then we have a period map

$$\mathcal{P}: B \to \Gamma \backslash \mathcal{D}$$

for some finite-index subgroup  $\Gamma$  of  $O^+(L)$ . By Borel's extension theorem,  $\mathcal{P}$  is a morphism of algebraic varieties.

Let us put the assumption

$$\mathcal{P}$$
 is birational and  $-\operatorname{id} \notin \Gamma$ . (2.12)

For such a family  $\pi: X \to B$ , if we shrink B as necessary, then  $\mathcal{P}$  is an open immersion and Condition 2·1 is satisfied. For example, the universal K3 surface  $\mathcal{F}_{g,1} \to \mathcal{F}_g$  for g > 2 restricted over a Zariski open set of  $\mathcal{F}_g$  satisfies this assumption with  $L = L_g$  and  $\Gamma = \Gamma_g$  (see Section 1 for these notations).

As in Section 1, we denote by  $M_{\wedge^k,k}(\Gamma)$  the space of vector-valued modular forms of weight  $(\wedge^k,k)$  for  $\Gamma$ ,  $S_l(\Gamma,\det)$  the space of scalar-valued cusp forms of weight l and character det for  $\Gamma$ , and  $S_{n,m} = \mathfrak{S}_n/(\mathfrak{S}_m \times \mathfrak{S}_{n-m})$ .

THEOREM 2.6. Let  $\pi: X \to B$  be a lattice-polarised K3 family with period lattice L of signature (2, d) with  $d \ge 3$  and monodromy group  $\Gamma$  satisfying (2·12). Then we have an  $\mathfrak{S}_n$ -equivariant isomorphism

$$H^{0}(\bar{X}_{n}, \Omega^{k}) \simeq \begin{cases} 0 & 0 < k < d/2 \\ M_{\wedge^{k}, k}(\Gamma) & d/2 \leq k < d \\ 0 & k > d, \ k - d \notin 2\mathbb{Z} \\ S_{d+m}(\Gamma, \det) \otimes \mathbb{C}S_{n,m} & k = d + 2m, \ 0 \leq m \leq n \end{cases}.$$

*Proof.* When  $k \leq d$ , we have  $H^0(\bar{X}_n, \Omega^k) \simeq H^0(\bar{B}, \Omega^k)$  by Proposition 2.4. Then  $\bar{B}$  is a smooth projective model of the modular variety  $\Gamma \backslash \mathcal{D}$ . By a theorem of Pommerening [5], the space  $H^0(\bar{B}, \Omega^k)$  for k < d is isomorphic to the space of  $\Gamma$ -invariant holomorphic k-forms on  $\mathcal{D}$ , which in turn is identified with the space  $M_{\wedge^k,k}(\Gamma)$  of vector-valued modular forms of weight  $(\wedge^k, k)$  for  $\Gamma$  (see [4]). The vanishing of this space in 0 < k < d/2 is proved in [4, theorem 1.2] in the case when L has Witt index 2, and in [4, theorem 1.5 (1)] in the case when L has Witt index  $\leq 1$ .

The vanishing in the case k > d with  $k \not\equiv d \mod 2$  follows from Proposition 2.4. Finally, we consider the case k = d + 2m,  $0 \le m \le n$ . By Proposition 2.4, we have a natural  $\mathfrak{S}_n$ -equivariant isomorphism

$$H^0(\bar{X}_n, \Omega^{d+2m}) \simeq \bigoplus_{|\sigma|=m} H^0(\bar{X}_\sigma, K_{\bar{X}_\sigma}),$$

where  $\mathfrak{S}_n$  permutes the subsets  $\sigma$  of  $\{1, \dots, n\}$ . Here note that the stabiliser of each  $\sigma$  acts on  $H^0(\bar{X}_\sigma, K_{\bar{X}_\sigma})$  trivially by (2·10). Therefore, as an  $\mathfrak{S}_n$ -representation, the right-hand side can be written as

$$H^0(\bar{X}_m,K_{\bar{X}_m})\otimes\left(igoplus_{|\sigma|=m}\mathbb{C}\sigma
ight)\simeq H^0(\bar{X}_m,K_{\bar{X}_m})\otimes\mathbb{C}\mathcal{S}_{n,m}.$$

Finally, we have  $H^0(\bar{X}_m, K_{\bar{X}_m}) \simeq S_{d+m}(\Gamma, \det)$  by [3, theorem 3·1].

Remark 2.7. The case  $k \ge d$  of Theorem 2.6 holds also when d = 1, 2. We put the assumption  $d \ge 3$  for the requirement of the Koecher principle from [5]. Therefore, in fact, only the case (d, k) = (2, 1) with Witt index 2 is not covered.

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