# ON SYMMETRIC GROUP S<sub>3</sub> ACTIONS ON SPIN 4-MANIFOLDS

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ABSTRACT. Let X be a smooth, closed, connected spin 4-manifold with  $b_1(X) = 0$  and non-positive signature  $\sigma(X)$ . In this paper we use Seiberg-Witten theory to prove that if X admits an odd type symmetric group  $S_3$  action preserving the spin structure, then  $b_2^+(X) \ge |\sigma(X)|/8 + 3$  under some non-degeneracy conditions. We also obtain some information about  $\operatorname{Ind}_{\tilde{S}_3} D$ , where  $\tilde{S}_3$  is the extension of  $S_3$  by  $Z_2$ .

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Let X be a smooth, closed, connected spin 4-manifold. We denote by  $b_2(X)$  the second Betti number and denote by  $\sigma(X)$  the signature of X. In [11], Y. Matsumoto conjectured the following inequality

(1) 
$$b_2(X) \ge \frac{11}{8} |\sigma(X)|$$

This conjecture is well known and has been called the  $\frac{11}{8}$ -conjecture. All complex surfaces and their connected sums satisfy the conjecture (see [13]).

From the classification of unimodular even integral quadratic forms and the Rochlin's theorem, for the choice of orientation with non-positive signature the intersection form of a closed spin 4-manifold X is

$$-2kE_8 \oplus mH, \qquad k \ge 0,$$

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where  $E_8$  is the 8 × 8 intersection form matrix and H is the hyperbolic matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ .

Thus,  $m = b_2^+(X)$  and  $k = -\sigma(X)/16$  and so the inequality (1) is equivalent to  $m \ge 3k$ . Since K3 surface satisfies the equality with k = 1 and m = 3, the coefficient  $\frac{11}{8}$  is optimal, if the  $\frac{11}{8}$ -conjecture is true.

Donaldson has proved that if k > 0 then  $m \ge 3$  [4]. In early 1995, using the Seiberg-Witten theory introduced by Seiberg and Witten [15], Furuta [7] proved that

(2) 
$$b_2(X) \ge \frac{5}{4}|\sigma(X)| + 2.$$

This estimate has been dubbed the  $\frac{10}{8}$ -theorem. In fact, if the intersection form of X is definite, i.e., m = 0, then Donaldson proved that  $b_2(X)$  and  $\sigma(X)$  are zero [4, 5]. Thus, Furuta assumed that m is not zero. Inequality (2) follows by a surgery argument from the non-positive signature,  $b_1(X) = 0$  case:

**Theorem 1.1** (Furuta [7]). Let X be a smooth spin 4-manifold with  $b_1(X) = 0$  with non-positive signature. Let  $k = -\sigma(X)/16$  and  $m = b_2^+(X)$ . Then,

$$2k+1 \le m$$

# if $m \neq 0$ .

His key idea is to use a finite dimensional approximation of the monopole equation. Later Furuta and Kametani [7] used equivariant *e*-invariants and improved the above  $\frac{10}{8}$ -theorem as following.

**Theorem 1.2** (Furuta and Kametani [7]). Suppose that X is a closed oriented spin 4-manifold. If  $\sigma(X) < 0$ ,

$$b_2^+(X) \ge \begin{cases} 2(-\sigma(X)/16) + 1, & -\sigma(X)/16 \equiv 0, 1 \mod 4, \\ 2(-\sigma(X)/16) + 2, & -\sigma(X)/16 \equiv 2 \mod 4, \\ 2(-\sigma(X)/16) + 1, & -\sigma(X)/16 \equiv 3 \mod 4. \end{cases}$$

The above inequality was also proved by N. Minami [12] by using an equivariant join theorem to reduce the inequality to a theorem of Stolz [14].

Throughout this paper we will assume that m is not zero and  $b_1(X) = 0$ , unless stated otherwise.

A  $Z/2^p$ -action is called a spin action if the generator of the action  $\tau : X \to X$  lifts to an action  $\hat{\tau} : P_{\text{Spin}} \to P_{\text{Spin}}$  of the Spin bundle  $P_{\text{Spin}}$ . Such an action is of even type if  $\hat{\tau}$  has order  $2^p$  and is of odd type if  $\hat{\tau}$  has order  $2^{p+1}$ .

In [2], Bryan (see also [6]) used Furuta's technique of "finite dimensional approximation" and the equivariant *K*-theory to improve the above bound by p under the assumption that X has a spin odd type  $Z/2^p$ -action satisfying some non-degeneracy conditions analogous to the condition  $m \neq 0$ . More precisely, he proved

**Theorem 1.3** (Bryan [2]). Let X be a smooth, closed, connected spin 4-manifold with  $b_1(X) = 0$ . Assume that  $\tau : X \to X$  generates a spin smooth  $Z/2^p$ -action of odd type. Let  $X_i$  denote the quotient of X by  $Z/2^i \subset Z/2^p$ . Then

 $2k+1+p \le m$ 

if  $m \neq 2k + b_2^+(X_1)$  and  $b_2^+(X_i) \neq b_2^+(X_j) > 0$  for  $i \neq j$ .

In the paper [9], Kim gave the same bound for smooth, spin, even type  $Z/2^p$ -action on X satisfying some non-degeneracy conditions analogous to Bryan's.

In the paper [10], Liu gave the bound for even type spin  $S_3$  action on 4-manifolds, that is

**Theorem 1.4.** Let X be a smooth spin 4-manifold with  $b_1(X) = 0$  and non-positive signature. Let  $k = -\sigma(X)/16$  and  $m = b_2^+(X)$ . Then,

 $2k+2 \le m$ 

if  $b_2^+(X/<x_1>) > 0$ ,  $b_2^+(X/<x_2>) > 0$  and  $b_2^+(X) \neq b_2^+(X/<x_1>)$ .

The purpose of this paper is to study the spin symmetric group  $S_3$  actions of odd type on spin 4-manifolds, we prove that  $b_2^+(X) \ge |\sigma(X)|/8 + 3$  under some non-degeneracy conditions. We also obtain some results about  $\operatorname{Ind}_{\tilde{S}_2} D$ , where  $\tilde{S}_3$  is the extension of  $S_3$  by  $Z_2$ .

We organize the remainder of this paper as follows. In Section 2, we give some preliminaries to prove the main theorem. In Section 3, we use equivariant K-theory and representation theory to study the G-equivariant properties of the moduli space. In the last section we give our main results.

# 2. NOTATIONS AND PRELIMINARIES

We assume that we have completed every Banach spaces with suitable Sobolev norms. Let  $S = S^+ \oplus S^-$  denote the decomposition of spinor bundles into positive and negative spinor bundles. Let  $D : \Gamma(S^+) \to \Gamma(S^-)$  be the Dirac operator, and  $\rho : \Lambda_C^* \to \operatorname{End}_C(S)$  be the Clifford multiplication. The Seiberg-Witten equations are for a pair  $(a, \phi) \in \Omega^1(X, \sqrt{-1R}) \times \Gamma(S^+)$  and they are

$$D\phi + \rho(a)\phi = 0,$$
  $\rho(d^+a) - \phi \otimes \phi^* + \frac{1}{2}|\phi|^2 \,\mathrm{id} = 0,$   $d^*a = 0.$ 

Let

$$V = \Gamma(\sqrt{-1}\Lambda^1 \oplus S^+),$$
  
$$W' = (S^- \oplus \sqrt{-1} \operatorname{su}(S^+) \oplus \sqrt{-1}\Lambda^0).$$

We can think of the equation as the zero set of a map

$$\mathcal{D} + \mathcal{Q}: V \to W,$$

where  $\mathcal{D}(a,\phi) = (D\phi,\rho(d^+a),d^*a))$ ,  $\mathcal{Q}(a,\phi) = (\rho(a)\phi,\phi\otimes\phi^* - \frac{1}{2}|\phi|^2 \text{ id }, 0)$ , and W is defined to be the orthogonal complement to the constant functions in W'.

Now it is time to describe the group of symmetries of the equations. Define  $\operatorname{Pin}(2) \subset SU(2)$  to be the normalizer of  $S^1 \subset SU(2)$ . Regarding SU(2) as the group of unit quaternions and taking  $S^1$  to be elements of the form  $e^{\sqrt{-1}\theta}$ , then  $\operatorname{Pin}(2)$  consists of the form  $e^{\sqrt{-1}\theta}$  or  $e^{\sqrt{-1}\theta} J$ . We define the action of  $\operatorname{Pin}(2)$  on V and W as follows: since  $S^+$  and  $S^-$  are SU(2) bundles,  $\operatorname{Pin}(2)$  naturally acts on  $\Gamma(S^{\pm})$  by multiplication on the left.  $Z_2$  acts on  $\Gamma(\Lambda_C^*)$  by multiplication by  $\pm 1$  and this pulls back to an action of  $\operatorname{Pin}(2)$  by the natural map  $\operatorname{Pin}(2) \to Z_2$ . A calculation shows that this pullback also describes the induced action of  $\operatorname{Pin}(2)$  on  $\sqrt{-1}\operatorname{su}(S^+)$ . Both  $\mathcal{D}$  and  $\mathcal{Q}$ are seen to be  $\operatorname{Pin}(2)$  equivariant maps.

Let X be a smooth closed spin 4-manifold and suppose that X admits a spin structure preserving action by a compact Lie group (or finite group) G. We may assume a Riemannian metric on X so that G acts by isometries. If the action is of even type, both  $\mathcal{D}$  and  $\mathcal{Q}$  are  $\tilde{G} = \operatorname{Pin}(2) \times G$  equivariant maps.

Now we define  $V_{\lambda}$  to be the subspace of V spanned by the eigenspaces  $\mathcal{D}^*\mathcal{D}$  with eigenvalues less than or equal to  $\lambda \in R$ . Similarly, we define  $W_{\lambda}$  using  $\mathcal{DD}^*$ . The virtual G-representation  $[V_{\lambda} \otimes C] - [W_{\lambda} \otimes C] \in R(\tilde{G})$  is the  $\tilde{G}$ -index of  $\mathcal{D}$  and can be determined by the  $\tilde{G}$ -index and is independent of  $\lambda \in R$ , where  $R(\tilde{G})$  is the complex representation of  $\tilde{G}$ . In particular, since  $V_0 = \ker D$  and  $W_0 = \operatorname{Coker} D \oplus \operatorname{Coker} d^+$ , we have

$$[V_{\lambda} \otimes C] - [W_{\lambda} \otimes C] = [V_0 \otimes C] - [W_0 \otimes C] \in R(\hat{G}).$$

Note that  $\operatorname{Coker} d^+ = H^2_+(X, R).$ 

The G-action on X can always be lifted to  $\hat{G}$ -actions on spinor bundles, where  $\hat{G}$  is the following extension

$$1 \to Z_2 \to \hat{G} \to G \to 1.$$

Recall that the G-action is of even type if  $\hat{G}$  contains a subgroup isomorphic to G, otherwise it is of odd type. For  $S_3$  action of odd type, it is easy to know that the extension of  $S_3$  by  $Z_2$  is isomorphic to the group

$$\tilde{S}_3 = \langle a, b | a^6 = 1, b^2 = a^3, ba = a^{-1}b \rangle$$

The group  $\tilde{S}_3$  has 12 elements and can be partitioned into 6 conjugacy classes: the identity element 1,  $\{b, a^2b\}$ ,  $\{a^2, a^4\}$ ,  $\{a, a^5, a^4b\}$ ,  $\{a^3\}$ , and  $\{ab, a^3b, a^5b\}$ .

The character table for  $\tilde{S}_3$  is as following

|          | 1 | $a^3$ | $a^2$ | b  | a   | ab      |
|----------|---|-------|-------|----|-----|---------|
| $\eta_0$ | 1 | 1     | 1     | 1  | 1   | 1       |
| $\eta_1$ | 1 | -1    | 1     | -1 | i   | — i     |
| $\eta_2$ | 1 | 1     | 1     | 1  | -1  | $^{-1}$ |
| $\eta_3$ | 1 | -1    | 1     | -1 | — i | i       |
| $\eta_4$ | 2 | 2     | -1    | -1 | 0   | 0       |
| $\eta_5$ | 2 | -2    | -1    | 1  | 0   | 0       |

# 3. The index of $\mathcal{D}$ and the character formula for the *K*-theory degree

The virtual representation  $[V_{\lambda,C}] - [W_{\lambda,C}] \in R(\tilde{G})$  is the same as  $\operatorname{Ind}(\mathcal{D}) = [\ker \mathcal{D}] - [\operatorname{Coker} \mathcal{D}]$ . Furth determines  $\operatorname{Ind}(\mathcal{D})$  as a Pin(2) representation; denoting the restriction map  $r : R(\tilde{G}) \to R(\operatorname{Pin}(2))$ , Furth shows

$$r(\operatorname{Ind}(\mathcal{D})) = 2kh - m\tilde{1}$$

where  $k = -\sigma(X)/16$  and  $m = b_2^+(X)$ . Thus  $\operatorname{Ind}(\mathcal{D}) = sh - t\tilde{1}$  where s and t are polynomials such that s(1) = 2k and t(1) = m. For a spin odd  $S_3$  action,  $\tilde{G} = \operatorname{Pin}(2) \times \tilde{S}_3$ , we can write

$$s(\eta_1, \eta_2, \eta_3, \eta_4, \eta_5) = a_0 + b_0\eta_1 + c_0\eta_2 + d_0\eta_3 + e_0\eta_4 + f_0\eta_5$$

and

$$t(\eta_1, \eta_2, \eta_3, \eta_4, \eta_5) = a_1 + b_1\eta_1 + c_1\eta_2 + d_1\eta_3 + e_1\eta_4 + f_1\eta_5,$$

such that  $a_0 + b_0 + c_0 + d_0 + 2e_0 + 2f_0 = 2k$  and  $a_1 + b_1 + c_1 + d_1 + 2e_1 + 2f_1 = m = b_2^+(X)$ .

For any element  $g \in \tilde{S}_3$ , denote by  $\langle g \rangle$  the subgroup of  $\tilde{S}_3$  generated by g. Then we have

$$\dim(H^{+}(X)^{\tilde{S}_{3}}) = a_{1} = b_{2}^{+}(X/\tilde{S}_{3}),$$
  

$$\dim(H^{+}(X)^{\langle a^{3} \rangle}) = a_{1} + c_{1} + 2e_{1} = b_{2}^{+}(X/\langle a^{3} \rangle),$$
  

$$\dim(H^{+}(X)^{\langle a^{2} \rangle}) = a_{1} + b_{1} + c_{1} + d_{1} = b_{2}^{+}(X/\langle a^{2} \rangle),$$
  

$$\dim(H^{+}(X)^{\langle b \rangle}) = a_{1} + c_{1} = b_{2}^{+}(X/\langle b \rangle),$$
  

$$\dim(H^{+}(X)^{\langle a \rangle}) = a_{1} + e_{1} + f_{1} = b_{2}^{+}(X/\langle a \rangle),$$
  

$$\dim(H^{+}(X)^{\langle a b \rangle}) = a_{1} + e_{1} + f_{1} = b_{2}^{+}(X/\langle a b \rangle),$$

The Thom isomorphism theory in equivariant K-theory for a general compact Lie group is a deep theory proved using elliptic operator [1]. The subsequent character formula of this section uses only elementary properties of the Bott class.

Let V and W be complex  $\Gamma$  representations for some compact Lie group  $\Gamma$ . Let BV and BW denote balls in V and W and let  $f : BV \to BW$  be a  $\Gamma$ -map preserving the boundaries SV and SW.  $K_{\Gamma}(V)$  is by definition  $K_{\Gamma}(BV, SV)$ , and by the equivariant Thom isomorphism theorem,  $K_{\Gamma}(V)$  is a free  $R(\Gamma)$  module with generator the Bott class  $\lambda(V)$ . Applying the K-theory functor to f we get a map

$$f^*: K_{\Gamma}(W) \to K_{\Gamma}(V)$$

which defines a unique element  $\alpha_f \in R(\Gamma)$  by the equation  $f^*(\lambda(W)) = \alpha_f \cdot \lambda(V)$ . The element  $\alpha_f$  is called the *K*-theory degree of f.

Let  $V_g$  and  $W_g$  denote the subspaces if V and W fixed by an element  $g \in \Gamma$  and let  $V_g^{\perp}$  and  $W_g^{\perp}$  be the orthogonal complements. Let  $f^g: V_g \to W_g$  be the restriction of f and let  $d(f^g)$  denote the ordinary topological degree of  $f^g$  (by definition,  $d(f^g) = 0$  if dim  $V_g \neq \dim W_g$ ). For any  $\beta \in R(\Gamma)$ , let  $\lambda_{-1}\beta$  denote the alternating sum  $\Sigma(-1)^i \lambda^i \beta$  of exterior powers.

T. tom Dieck proves the following character formula for the degree  $\alpha_f$ :

**Theorem** ([3]). Let  $f : BV \to BW$  be a  $\Gamma$ -map preserving boundaries and let  $\alpha_f \in R(\Gamma)$  be the K-theory degree. Then

$$\operatorname{tr}_g(\alpha_f) = d(f^g) \operatorname{tr}_g(\lambda_{-1}(W_g^{\perp} - V_g^{\perp}))$$

where  $\operatorname{tr}_q$  is the trace of the action of an element  $g \in \Gamma$ .

This formula is very useful in the case where  $\dim V_q \neq \dim W_q$  so that  $d(f^g) = 0$ .

Recall that  $\lambda_{-1}(\Sigma_i a_i r_i) = \prod_i (\lambda_{-1} r_i)^{a_i}$  and that for a one dimensional representation r, we have  $\lambda_{-1} r = (1-r)$ . A two dimensional representation such as h has  $\lambda_{-1} h = (1 - h + \Lambda^2 h)$ . In this case, since h comes from an SU(2) representation,  $\Lambda^2 h = \det h = 1$  so  $\lambda_{-1} h = (2 - h)$ .

In the following by using the character formula to examine the K-theory degree  $\alpha_{f_{\lambda}}$  of the map  $f_{\lambda} : BV_{\lambda,C} \to BW_{\lambda,C}$  coming from the Seiberg-Witten equations. We will abbreviate  $\alpha_{f_{\lambda}}$  as  $\alpha$  and  $V_{\lambda,C}$  and  $W_{\lambda,C}$  as just V and W. Let  $\phi \in S^1 \subset \text{Pin}(2) \subset G$  be the element generating a dense subgroup of  $S^1$ , and recall that there is the element  $J \in \text{Pin}(2)$  coming from the quaternion. Note that the action of J on h has two invariant subspaces on which J acts by multiplication with  $\sqrt{-1}$  and  $-\sqrt{-1}$ .

## 4. The main results

Consider  $\alpha = \alpha_{f_{\lambda}} \in R(\operatorname{Pin}(2) \times \tilde{S}_3)$ , it has the following form

$$\alpha = \alpha_0 + \tilde{\alpha_0}\tilde{1} + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \alpha_i h_i$$

where  $\alpha_i = l_i + m_i \eta_1 + n_i \eta_2 + p_i \eta_3 + q_i \eta_4 + r_i \eta_5$ ,  $i \ge 0$  and  $\tilde{\alpha_0} = \tilde{l_0} + \tilde{m_0} \eta_1 + \tilde{n_0} \eta_2 + \tilde{p_0} \eta_3 + \tilde{q_0} \eta_4 + \tilde{r_0} \eta_5$ . Since  $\phi$  acts non-trivially on h and trivially on  $\tilde{1}$ , then we have

$$\dim(V(\eta_1, \eta_2, \eta_3, \eta_4, \eta_5)h)_{\phi} - \dim(W(\eta_1, \eta_2, \eta_3, \eta_4, \eta_5)\tilde{1})_{\phi}$$
  
= -(a\_1 + b\_1 + c\_1 + d\_1 + 2e\_1 + 2f\_1) = -b\_2^+(X).

So if  $b_2^+(X) \neq 0$ ,  $\operatorname{tr}_{\phi} \alpha = 0$ .

 $\phi a$  acts non-trivially on  $V(\eta_1, \eta_2, \eta_3, \eta_4, \eta_5)h$  but trivially on  $a_1 \tilde{1}$ . Besides, the action of a on  $e_1\eta_4$  and  $f_1\eta_5$  both have a one-dimensional invariant subspace, then we have

$$\dim(V(\eta_1, \eta_2, \eta_3, \eta_4, \eta_5))h)_{\phi a} - \dim(W(\eta_1, \eta_2, \eta_3, \eta_4, \eta_5))\tilde{1})_{\phi a}$$
  
= -(a\_1 + e\_1 + f\_1) = -b\_2^+(X/\langle a \rangle).

So if  $a_1 + e_1 + f_1 = b_2^+(X/\langle a \rangle) \neq 0$ ,  $\operatorname{tr}_{\phi a} \alpha = 0$ .

Since  $\phi a^2$  acts non-trivially on  $V(\eta_1, \eta_2, \eta_3, \eta_4, \eta_5)h$ , and trivially on  $a_1\tilde{1}, b_1\eta_1\tilde{1}$  and  $d_1\eta_3\tilde{1}$ , then we have

$$\dim(V(\eta_1, \eta_2, \eta_3, \eta_4, \eta_5))_{\phi a^2} - \dim(W(\eta_1, \eta_2, \eta_3, \eta_4, \eta_5))_{\phi a^2}$$
  
= -(a\_1 + b\_1 + c\_1 + d\_1) = -b\_2^+(X/\langle a^2 \rangle)

So if  $a_1 + b_1 + c_1 + d_1 = b_2^+(X/\langle a^2 \rangle) \neq 0$ ,  $\operatorname{tr}_{\phi a^2} \alpha = 0$ .

 $\phi a^3$  acts non-trivially on  $V(\eta_1, \eta_2, \eta_3, \eta_4, \eta_5)h$  but trivially on  $a_1\tilde{1}$  and  $c_1\eta_2\tilde{1}$ . Besides, the action of  $a^3$  on  $e_1\eta_4$  has a two-dimensional invariant subspaces, so we have

$$\dim(V(\eta_1, \eta_2, \eta_3, \eta_4, \eta_5))_{\phi a^3} - \dim(W(\eta_1, \eta_2, \eta_3, \eta_4, \eta_5))_{\phi a^3}$$
  
= -(a\_1 + c\_1 + 2e\_1) = -b\_2^+(X/\langle a^3 \rangle)

So if  $a_1 + c_1 + 2e_1 = b_2^+(X/\langle a^3 \rangle) \neq 0$ ,  $\operatorname{tr}_{\phi a^3} \alpha = 0$ .

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Since  $\phi b$  acts non-trivially on  $V(\eta_1, \eta_2, \eta_3, \eta_4, \eta_5)h$  and trivially on  $a_1\tilde{1}$  and  $c_1\eta_2\tilde{1}$ , then we have

$$\dim(V(\eta_1, \eta_2, \eta_3, \eta_4, \eta_5)h)_{\phi b} - \dim(W(\eta_1, \eta_2, \eta_3, \eta_4, \eta_5)\tilde{1})_{\phi b}$$
  
=  $-(a_1 + c_1) = -b_2^+(X/\langle b \rangle).$ 

So if  $a_1 + c_1 = b_2^+(X/\langle b \rangle) \neq 0$ ,  $\operatorname{tr}_{\phi b} \alpha = 0$ .

 $\phi ab$  acts non-trivially on  $V(\eta_1, \eta_2, \eta_3, \eta_4, \eta_5)h$  but trivially on  $a_1\tilde{1}$ . Besides, the action of ab on  $e_1\eta_4$  and  $f_1\eta_5$  both have a one-dimensional invariant subspace, then we have

$$\dim(V(\eta_1, \eta_2, \eta_3, \eta_4, \eta_5)h)_{\phi ab} - \dim(W(\eta_1, \eta_2, \eta_3, \eta_4, \eta_5)1)_{\phi ab}$$
  
=  $-(a_1 + e_1 + f_1) = -b_2^+(X/\langle ab \rangle).$ 

So if  $a_1 + e_1 + f_1 = b_2^+(X/\langle ab \rangle) \neq 0$ ,  $\operatorname{tr}_{\phi ab} \alpha = 0$ .

From the above analysis, we know if  $b_2^+(X/\langle a \rangle) \neq 0$  and  $b_2^+(X/\langle b \rangle >) \neq 0$ , we have  $\operatorname{tr}_{\phi a} \alpha = \operatorname{tr}_{\phi a} \alpha = \operatorname{tr}_{\phi a^2} \alpha = \operatorname{tr}_{\phi a^3} \alpha = \operatorname{tr}_{\phi a b} \alpha = 0$  which implies that

$$0 = \operatorname{tr}_{\phi} \alpha = \operatorname{tr}_{\phi} (\alpha_{0} + \tilde{\alpha_{0}} \tilde{1} + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \alpha_{i} h_{i}) = \operatorname{tr}_{\phi} \alpha_{0} + \operatorname{tr}_{\phi} \tilde{\alpha_{0}} \tilde{1} + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \operatorname{tr} \alpha_{i} (\phi^{i} + \phi^{-i})$$
$$= (l_{0} + m_{0} + n_{0} + p_{0} + q_{0} + r_{0}) + (\tilde{l_{0}} + \tilde{m_{0}} + \tilde{n_{0}} + \tilde{p_{0}} + \tilde{q_{0}} + \tilde{r_{0}}) + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \operatorname{tr} \alpha_{i} (\phi^{i} + \phi^{-i}),$$
$$0 = \operatorname{tr}_{\phi a} \alpha = \operatorname{tr}_{\phi a} (\alpha_{0} + \tilde{\alpha_{0}} \tilde{1} + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \alpha_{i} h_{i}) = \operatorname{tr}_{a} \alpha_{0} + \operatorname{tr}_{a} \tilde{\alpha_{0}} + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \operatorname{tr}_{a} \alpha_{i} (\phi^{i} + \phi^{-i})$$
$$= (l_{0} + im_{0} - n_{0} - ip_{0}) + (\tilde{l_{0}} + i\tilde{m_{0}} - \tilde{n_{0}} - i\tilde{p_{0}}) + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \operatorname{tr}_{a} \alpha_{i} (\phi^{i} + \phi^{-i}),$$

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \operatorname{tr}_{\phi a^{2}} \alpha = \operatorname{tr}_{\phi a^{2}} (\alpha_{0} + \tilde{\alpha_{0}} \tilde{1} + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \alpha_{i} h_{i}) = \operatorname{tr}_{a^{2}} \alpha_{0} + \operatorname{tr}_{a^{2}} \tilde{\alpha_{0}} + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \operatorname{tr}_{a^{2}} \alpha_{i} (\phi^{i} + \phi^{-i}) \\ &= (l_{0} + m_{0} + n_{0} + p_{0} - q_{0} - r_{0}) + (\tilde{l_{0}} + \tilde{m_{0}} + \tilde{n_{0}} + \tilde{p_{0}} - \tilde{q_{0}} - \tilde{r_{0}}) + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \operatorname{tr}_{a^{2}} \alpha_{i} (\phi^{i} + \phi^{-i}), \\ 0 &= \operatorname{tr}_{\phi a^{3}} \alpha = \operatorname{tr}_{\phi a^{3}} (\alpha_{0} + \tilde{\alpha_{0}} \tilde{1} + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \alpha_{i} h_{i}) = \operatorname{tr}_{a^{3}} \alpha_{0} + \operatorname{tr}_{a^{3}} \tilde{\alpha_{0}} + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \operatorname{tr}_{a^{3}} \alpha_{i} (\phi^{i} + \phi^{-i}) \\ &= (l_{0} - m_{0} + n_{0} - p_{0} + 2q_{0} - 2r_{0}) + (\tilde{l_{0}} - \tilde{m_{0}} + \tilde{n_{0}} - \tilde{p_{0}} + 2\tilde{q_{0}} - 2\tilde{r_{0}}) + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \operatorname{tr}_{a^{3}} \alpha_{i} (\phi^{i} + \phi^{-i}), \\ 0 &= \operatorname{tr}_{\phi b} \alpha = \operatorname{tr}_{\phi b} (\alpha_{0} + \tilde{\alpha_{0}} \tilde{1} + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \alpha_{i} h_{i}) = \operatorname{tr}_{b} \alpha_{0} + \operatorname{tr}_{b} \tilde{\alpha_{0}} + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \operatorname{tr}_{b} \alpha_{i} (\phi^{i} + \phi^{-i}) \\ &= (l_{0} - m_{0} + n_{0} - p_{0} - q_{0} + r_{0}) + (\tilde{l_{0}} - \tilde{m_{0}} + \tilde{n_{0}} - \tilde{p_{0}} - \tilde{q_{0}} + \tilde{r_{0}}) + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \operatorname{tr}_{b} \alpha_{i} (\phi^{i} + \phi^{-i}), \\ 0 &= \operatorname{tr}_{\phi a b} \alpha = \operatorname{tr}_{\phi a b} (\alpha_{0} + \tilde{\alpha_{0}} \tilde{1} + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \alpha_{i} h_{i}) = \operatorname{tr}_{a b} \alpha_{0} + \operatorname{tr}_{a b} \tilde{\alpha_{0}} + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \operatorname{tr}_{a b} \alpha_{i} (\phi^{i} + \phi^{-i}), \\ &= (l_{0} - im_{0} - n_{0} + ip_{0}) + (\tilde{l_{0}} - i\tilde{m_{0}} - \tilde{n_{0}} + ip_{0}) + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \operatorname{tr}_{a b} \alpha_{i} (\phi^{i} + \phi^{-i}), \end{aligned}$$

and so on. From these equations, we have  $\alpha_0 = -\tilde{\alpha_0}$  and  $\alpha_i = 0, i > 0$ , that is  $\alpha = \alpha_0(1 - \tilde{1})$ .

Next we calculate  $\operatorname{tr}_J \alpha$ . Since J acts non-trivially on both h and  $\tilde{1}$ ,  $\dim V_J = \dim W_J = 0$ , so  $d(f^J) = 1$ . Using  $\operatorname{tr}_J h = 0$  and  $\operatorname{tr}_J \tilde{1} = -1$ , by the character formula we have

$$\operatorname{tr}_{J}(\alpha) = \operatorname{tr}_{J}(\lambda_{-1}(m\tilde{1} - 2kh)) = \operatorname{tr}_{J}((1 - \tilde{1})^{m}(2 - h)^{-2k}) = 2^{m-2k}$$

Now we calculate  $\operatorname{tr}_{Ja} \alpha$ . Ja acts non-trivially on both  $V(\eta_1, \eta_2, \eta_3, \eta_4, \eta_5)h$ , but trivially on  $c_1\eta_2 \tilde{1}$ . Besides, the action of a on  $e_1\eta_4 \tilde{1}$  and  $f_1\eta_5 \tilde{1}$  both have a one-dimensional invariant subspace. So we have

 $\dim(V(\eta_1,\eta_2,\eta_3,\eta_4,\eta_5)h)_{Ja} - \dim(W(\eta_1,\eta_2,\eta_3,\eta_4,\eta_5)\tilde{1})_{Ja} = -(c_1 + e_1 + f_1).$ 

Then, if  $c_1 + e_1 + f_1 \neq 0$ ,  $\operatorname{tr}_{Ja} \alpha = 0$ 

Since  $Ja^2$  acts non-trivially on both  $V(\eta_1, \eta_2, \eta_3, \eta_4, \eta_5)h$  and  $W(\eta_1, \eta_2, \eta_3, \eta_4, \eta_5)\tilde{1}$ , then  $d(f^{Ja^2}) = 1$ . By tom Dieck formula, we have

$$\operatorname{tr}_{Ja^2} \alpha = \operatorname{tr}_{Ja^2} [\lambda_{-1}(a_1 + b_1\eta_1 + c_1\eta_2 + d_1\eta_3 + e_1\eta_4 + f_1\eta_5) 1 \\ - \lambda_{-1}(a_0 + b_0\eta_1 + c_0\eta_2 + d_0\eta_3 + e_0\eta_4 + f_0\eta_5) h] \\ = 2^{(a_1 + b_1 + c_1 + d_1) - (a_0 + b_0 + c_0 + d_0)}.$$

 $Ja^3$  acts non-trivially on  $V(\eta_1, \eta_2, \eta_3, \eta_4, \eta_5)h$ , but trivially on  $b_1\eta_1\tilde{1}$  and  $d_1\eta_3\tilde{1}$ . Besides, the action of  $Ja^3$  on  $f_1\eta_5\tilde{1}$  has two invariant subspaces. So

$$\dim(V(\eta_1,\eta_2,\eta_3,\eta_4,\eta_5)h)_{Ja^3} - \dim(W(\eta_1,\eta_2,\eta_3,\eta_4,\eta_5)\tilde{1})_{Ja^3} = -(b_1 + d_1 + 2f_1).$$

Then, if  $b_1 + d_1 + 2f_1 \neq 0$ ,  $\operatorname{tr}_{Ja^3} \alpha = 0$ .

Since Jb acts non-trivially on  $V(\eta_1, \eta_2, \eta_3, \eta_4, \eta_5)h$  but trivially on  $b_1\eta_1\tilde{1}$  and  $d_1\eta_3\tilde{1}$ , then

$$\dim(V(\eta_1, \eta_2, \eta_3, \eta_4, \eta_5)h)_{Jb} - \dim(W(\eta_1, \eta_2, \eta_3, \eta_4, \eta_5)1)_{Jb} = -(b_1 + d_1) = b_2^+(X/\langle a^2 \rangle - b_2^+(X/\langle b \rangle).$$

Then, if  $b_1 + d_1 \neq 0$ ,  $\operatorname{tr}_{Jb} \alpha = 0$ 

Jab acts non-trivially on  $V(\eta_1, \eta_2, \eta_3, \eta_4, \eta_5)h$  but trivially on  $c_1\eta_2 \tilde{1}$ . Besides, the action of ab on  $e_1\eta_4 \tilde{1}$  and  $f_1\eta_5 \tilde{1}$  both have a one-dimensional invariant sub-space. Then we have

$$\dim(V(\eta_1,\eta_2,\eta_3,\eta_4,\eta_5)h)_{Jab} - \dim(W(\eta_1,\eta_2,\eta_3,\eta_4,\eta_5)\tilde{1})_{Jab} = -(c_1 + e_1 + f_1).$$

Then by assuming  $b_2^+(X/\langle a^2 \rangle - b_2^+(X/\langle b \rangle) \neq 0$  and  $b_2^+(X/\langle a^3 \rangle - b_2^+(X/\langle b \rangle) \neq 0$ , we have  $\operatorname{tr}_{Ja} \alpha = 0$ ,  $\operatorname{tr}_{Ja^3} \alpha = 0$ ,  $\operatorname{tr}_{Jab} \alpha = 0$ ,  $\operatorname{tr}_{Jab} \alpha = 0$ 

By direct calculation, we have

(3) 
$$\operatorname{tr}_{J} \alpha_{0} = l_{0} + m_{0} + n_{0} + p_{0} + 2q_{0} + 2r_{0} = 2^{m-2k-1},$$

(4) 
$$\operatorname{tr}_{a^2} \alpha_0 = l_0 + m_0 + n_0 + p_0 - q_0 - r_0 = 2^{(a_1 + b_1 + c_1 + d_1) - (a_0 + b_0 + c_0 + d_0) - 1},$$

(5) 
$$\operatorname{tr}_a \alpha_0 = l_0 + im_0 - n_0 - ip_0 = 0,$$

(6) 
$$\operatorname{tr}_{a^{3}} \alpha_{0} = l_{0} - m_{0} + n_{0} - p_{0} + 2q_{0} - 2r_{0} = 0,$$

(7) 
$$\operatorname{tr}_b \alpha_0 = l_0 - m_0 + n_0 - p_0 - q_0 + r_0 = 0.$$

(8) 
$$\operatorname{tr}_{ab} \alpha_0 = l_0 - im_0 - n_0 + ip_0 = 0,$$

Here we use  $\operatorname{tr}_{Jg} \alpha = \operatorname{tr}_g(2 \cdot \alpha_0) = 2 \cdot \operatorname{tr}_g \alpha_0$  where g is any element of  $\tilde{S}_3$ . From (3), (5), (6) and (8), we get  $l_0 + q_0 = 2^{m-2k-3}$ . So we have the following main result.

**Theorem 4.1.** Let X be a smooth spin 4-manifold with  $b_1(X) = 0$  and non-positive signature. Let  $k = -\sigma(X)/16$  and  $m = b_2^+(X)$ . If X admits a spin odd type S<sub>3</sub> action, then  $2k + 3 \le m$ , if  $b_2^+(X/\langle a \rangle) \ne 0$ ,  $b_2^+(X/\langle b \rangle) \ne 0$ ,  $b_2^+(X/\langle a^2 \rangle) - b_2^+(X/\langle b \rangle) \ne 0$  and  $b_2^+(X/\langle a^3 \rangle) - b_2^+(X/\langle b \rangle) \ne 0$ .

Besides, from the above six equations, we get

$$q_0 = r_0 = \left[2^{m-2k-2} - 2^{(a_1+b_1+c_1+d_1)-(a_0+b_0+c_0+d_0)-2}\right]/3$$
$$l_0 = m_0 = n_0 = p_0 = \left[2^{m-2k-3} - 2^{(a_1+b_1+c_1+d_1)-(a_0+b_0+c_0+d_0)-2}\right]/3$$

Since  $q_0 \in Z$ , then  $2^{m-2k-2} - 2^{(a_1+b_1+c_1+d_1)-(a_0+b_0+c_0+d_0)-2} \in 3Z \subset Z$ . From Theorem 4.1, we know  $2^{m-2k-2} \in Z$ . So  $2^{(a_1+b_1+c_1+d_1)-(a_0+b_0+c_0+d_0)-2} \in Z$ , i.e.,  $(a_1+b_1+c_1+d_1) \ge (a_0+b_0+c_0+d_0)+2$ . Hence, we have

**Theorem 4.2.** Let X be a smooth spin 4-manifold with  $b_1(X) = 0$  and non-positive signature. If X admits a spin odd type  $S_3$  action, then

$$b_2^+(X/\langle a^2 \rangle) \ge \dim((Ind_{\tilde{S}_3}D)^{\langle a^2 \rangle}) + 2,$$

if  $b_2^+(X/\langle a \rangle) \neq 0$ ,  $b_2^+(X/\langle b \rangle) \neq 0$ ,  $b_2^+(X/\langle a^2 \rangle) - b_2^+(X/\langle b \rangle) \neq 0$  and  $b_2^+(X/\langle a^3 \rangle) - b_2^+(X/\langle b \rangle) \neq 0$ . Moreover, under this condition, the K-theory degree  $\alpha = \alpha_0(1-\tilde{1})$  for some  $\alpha_0 = l_0(1+\eta_1+\eta_2+\eta_3) + q_0(\eta_4+\eta_5)$ .

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