

F-theory and $\text{AdS}_3/\text{CFT}_2$

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F-theory Solutions: construct Type IIB solutions where axio-dilaton, τ^{IIB} , varies over (a part of) spacetime, including monodromies in the $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ duality group [Couzens, CL, Martelli, Schäfer-Nameki, Wong]

$SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ monodromy of $\tau^{IIB} \Rightarrow$ 7-branes \Rightarrow F-theory!

Consider **general** solutions with an AdS_p factor preserving some supersymmetry – top-down approach to AdS/CFT

→ no previously known solutions with full $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ monodromy

→ for poles in τ^{IIB} see [Couzens], [D'Hoker, Gutperle, Uhlemann]

Dual CFTs can be difficult to understand

(p, q) 7-branes \Rightarrow genuinely non-perturbative effects

In this talk: mainly $AdS_3 \Rightarrow$ dual to 2d SCFTs

2d SCFTs arise in “string sector” of F-theory

In any F-theory compactification on elliptic n -fold $\pi : Y \rightarrow B$ there can exist strings in spectrum from

D3-branes on $C \subset B$

Worldvolume theory of string is SCFT with supersymmetry

n	2	3	4	5
\mathcal{N}	(0, 8)	(0, 4)	(0, 2)	(0, 2)

Can pinpoint loci in the moduli space with interesting physics

Strings of 6d $\mathcal{N} = (1, 0)$ SCFTs

[del Zotto, Lockhart]

- tensionless strings are hallmark of superconformal symmetry in 6d
- instanton part of 6d Nekrasov PF \leftrightarrow elliptic genera of strings

Strings of 6d $\mathcal{N} = (1, 0)$ Supergravities [Haghighat, Murthy, Vafa, Vandoren]

- 5d BPS black holes arise from 6d BPS strings on S^1
- microstate counting of strings in 6d \rightarrow macroscopic entropy

In 4d $\mathcal{N} = 1$, strings are

→ dual to instantons

→ not BPS \Rightarrow tension not protected \Rightarrow quantum corrections [Mayr]

In 2d $\mathcal{N} = (0, 2)$, strings are

→ spacefilling

→ required to wrap specific curve class by tadpole cancellation

[Schäfer-Nameki, Weigand], [Aruzzi, Hassler, Heckman, Melnikov]

[CL, Schäfer-Nameki, Weigand]

- ① Single D3-brane on C with varying τ [CL, Schäfer-Nameki, Weigand]
→ study explicitly via **topological duality twist**
- ② Multiple D3-branes on C with varying τ
[Couzens, CL, Martelli, Schäfer-Nameki, Wong]
→ no explicit construction
→ construct **AdS₃ supergravity duals** with $(0, 4)$
→ determine **central charges** from holography
- ③ Solutions with different SUSY [Couzens, Martelli, Schäfer-Nameki]
→ $(0, 2)$
→ $(2, 2)$
- ④ An $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM Anomaly Polynomial [CL, Schäfer-Nameki]
→ Moduli space of couplings terms in anomaly polynomial
→ Integration and comparison to AdS₃ central charges

Topological Duality Twist

Abelian $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM

\Rightarrow “bonus” $U(1)_D$ symmetry [Intriligator], [Kapustin, Witten]

$$\gamma : \tau \rightarrow \frac{a\tau + b}{c\tau + d}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in SL(2, \mathbb{Z}) \quad \rightarrow \quad e^{i\alpha(\gamma)} \equiv \frac{c\tau + d}{|c\tau + d|} \in U(1)_D$$

Objects have charge q_D if transforms by $e^{iq_D\alpha(\gamma)}$ under γ

Object	F^+	F^-	Ψ, Q	$\tilde{\Psi}, \tilde{Q}$	ϕ_i
q_D	1	-1	1/2	-1/2	0

We have a $U(1)_D$ connection

$$\mathcal{A}_D = \frac{d\tau_1}{2\tau_2}$$

Topological duality twist (TDT): To preserve SUSY compensate non-trivial transformation of supercharges under holonomy of C and $U(1)_D$ by R-symmetry transformation. [Martucci]

Anomaly Polynomials and Central Charges

Construct topological duality twisted dimensional reduction to 2d for strings in base of elliptic Calabi–Yau n -fold [CL, Schäfer-Nameki, Weigand]

Can compute the central charges in each case; for F-theory to 6d:

$$c_R = 3C \cdot C + 3c_1(B) \cdot C$$

$$c_L = 3C \cdot C + 9c_1(B) \cdot C$$

[Haghighat, Murthy, Vafa, Vandoren], [CL, Schäfer-Nameki, Weigand]

Anomaly polynomial for $(0, 4)$ theory

$$I_4 = -\frac{1}{24}p_1(T) [-6c_1(B) \cdot C] - c_2(R) \left[\frac{1}{2}C \cdot C + \frac{1}{2}c_1(B) \cdot C \right] + \dots$$

Matches AP for strings in 6d [Berman, Harvey], [Shimizu, Tachikawa]

How to generalize to multiple D3-branes on C ?

Interaction term in fermionic variations does not respect $U(1)_D$!
 \Rightarrow Topological duality twist does **not** (obviously) generalize

Instead can consider M5-branes [Assel, Schäfer-Nameki]

D3-brane on M_4 with TDT



M5-brane on Kähler elliptic threefold \widehat{M}_4 with geometric twist

Single M5 with geometric twist on \widehat{M}_4 and “non-abelianize” [Cordova, Jafferis] to determine non-abelian $N = 4$ SYM with varying τ

[Assel, Schäfer-Nameki]

\rightarrow Subtlety: 4d theory has duality defects (3–7 strings)

How to generalize to multiple D3-branes on C ?

Interaction term in fermionic variations does not respect $U(1)_D$!

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\rightarrow instead can consider M5-branes [Assel, Schäfer-Nameki]

Can consider AdS/CFT

\Rightarrow large N

\Rightarrow large numbers of D3-branes

IIB content:

$$\begin{aligned}
 F_5 &\longleftrightarrow \text{D3-branes} \\
 G_3 &\begin{cases} F_3 &\longleftrightarrow \text{D1/D5-branes} \\ H_3 &\longleftrightarrow \text{F-strings/NS5-branes} \end{cases} \\
 P_1 = \frac{i}{2\tau_2} d\tau &\longleftrightarrow \text{7-branes}
 \end{aligned}$$

Set $G_3 = 0$

General starting point:

$$\begin{aligned}
 ds^2 &= e^{2A} ds^2(\text{AdS}_3) + ds^2(M_7) \\
 F_5 &= (1 + *)\text{vol}(\text{AdS}_3) \wedge F^{(2)}
 \end{aligned}$$

To preserve (0, 2) SUSY solve Killing spinor equation

$$\nabla_M \epsilon + \frac{i}{192} \Gamma^{P_1 P_2 P_3 P_4} F_{M P_1 P_2 P_3 P_4} \epsilon = 0$$

General solution

[Couzens, CL, Martelli, Schäfer-Nameki, Wong]

[Couzens, Martelli, Schäfer-Nameki]

$$\begin{array}{c} S^1 \hookrightarrow M_7 \\ \downarrow \\ M_6 \end{array}$$

S^1 fibration provides $U(1)_r$ R-symmetry of $(0, 2)$

τ variation combines into an auxiliary Kähler elliptic fibration M_8 over M_6 with non-trivial constraint

$$\square_8 R_8 - \frac{1}{2} R_8^2 + R_{8ij} R_8^{ij} = 0$$

First consider more SUSY

$\rightarrow (0, 4)$ SUSY \Rightarrow dual to strings in 6d

$\rightarrow (2, 2)$ SUSY \Rightarrow see later

Requiring (0, 4) is highly constrained, $A = \text{const}$ and

$$\begin{array}{ccc} S^1 & \hookrightarrow & S^3 & & Y_3 & \leftrightarrow & \mathbb{E}_7 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\ M_6 = & & S^2 & \times & B_2 & & \end{array}$$

Killing spinors transform in $(\mathbf{2}, \mathbf{1})$ of S^3 isometry

$$SO(4) = SU(2)_r \times SU(2)_L$$

$SU(2)_r \rightarrow$ superconformal R-symmetry

$SU(2)_L \rightarrow$ additional flavour symmetry

Requiring (0, 4) is highly constrained $A = \text{const}$ and

$$\begin{array}{ccc} S^1 & \hookrightarrow & S^3/\Gamma & & Y_3 & \leftrightarrow & \mathbb{E}_\tau \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\ M_6 = & & S^2 & \times & B_2 & & \end{array}$$

Killing spinors transform in $(\mathbf{2}, \mathbf{1})$ of S^3 isometry

$$SO(4) = SU(2)_r \times SU(2)_L$$

$SU(2)_r \rightarrow$ superconformal R-symmetry

$SU(2)_L \rightarrow$ additional flavour symmetry **when $\Gamma = 1$**

We preserve the same SUSY for $\Gamma \subset SU(2)_L$ finite subgroup

\rightarrow consider $\Gamma = \mathbb{Z}_M$ in this talk

General F-theory solution of Type IIB SUGRA dual to 2d (0, 4) is

$$\begin{array}{c} \mathbb{E}_7 \hookrightarrow Y_3 \\ \downarrow \\ \text{AdS}_3 \times S^3/\Gamma \times B_2 \end{array}$$

with F_5 flux

$$F_5 = (1 + *)\text{vol}(\text{AdS}_3) \wedge J_B$$

J_B is Kähler form on B Poincaré dual to a curve C

$\Rightarrow C$, wrapped by D3-brane, ample in B

Generalisation of previously known solutions:

$$\text{AdS}_3 \times S^3 \times T^4 \quad \text{and} \quad \text{AdS}_3 \times S^3 \times K3$$

Holographic Central Charges

Leading Order

Brown–Henneaux

$$c_{\text{SUGRA}}^{\text{IIB}} = \frac{3R_{\text{AdS}}}{2G_N^{(3)}} = N^2 \frac{3\text{vol}(S^3/\mathbb{Z}_M)\text{vol}(B)32\pi^2}{\text{vol}(S^3/\mathbb{Z}_M)} = 6N^2 M \text{vol}(B)$$

Further

$$\text{vol}(B) = \frac{1}{2} \int_B J_B \wedge J_B = \frac{1}{2} C \cdot C$$

So

$$c_{\text{SUGRA}}^{\text{IIB}} = 3N^2 M C \cdot C$$

is the leading order contribution to the (left and right) central charge

Gravitational Chern–Simons couplings from 7-branes bulk

$$S_{CS}(\Gamma_{\text{AdS}_3}) = \frac{c_L - c_R}{96\pi} \int_{\text{AdS}_3} \omega_{CS}(\Gamma_{\text{AdS}_3})$$

\Rightarrow

$$c_L - c_R = 6Nc_1(B) \cdot C$$

Gauging $SO(4)$ isometry of S^3

\Rightarrow

$$k_r^{(1)} = \frac{1}{2}Nc_1(B) \cdot C$$

Leading and subleading central charges

$$c_R^{\text{IIB}} = 3N^2 C \cdot C + 3N c_1(B) \cdot C$$

$$c_L^{\text{IIB}} = 3N^2 C \cdot C + 9N c_1(B) \cdot C$$

Matches with spectrum computation for $N = 1$:

$$c_R^{\text{spectrum}} = 3C \cdot C + 3c_1(B) \cdot C$$

$$c_L^{\text{spectrum}} = 3C \cdot C + 9c_1(B) \cdot C$$

Only for $M = 1$

⇒ subleading contributions for $M > 1$ tricky

⇒ look at T-duality to M-theory

- ① Constructed general solution of Type IIB supergravity with
 - (0, 4) SUSY in dual SCFT
 - $G_3 = 0$ and **arbitrary** τ

- ② Geometry:

$$\text{AdS}_3 \times S^3/\Gamma \times B_2$$

- ③ Flux through (ample) curve in $B_2 \Rightarrow N$ D3-branes on C

- ④ Dual SCFT

→ worldvolume theory of string in 6d F-theory compactification

F-theory on Y_3 T-dual to M-theory on Y_3

General solution:

$$\text{AdS}_3 \times S^2 \times Y_3$$

with flux

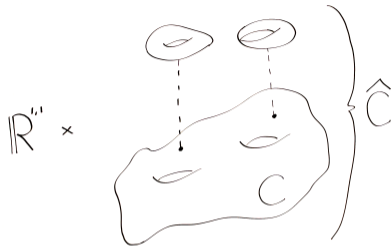
$$G_4 = \text{dvol}(S^2) \wedge J_{Y_3}$$

(See [Colgain, Wu, Yavartanoo])

J_{Y_3} is Kahler form on Y_3 Poincaré dual to divisor

$$MB + N\hat{C}$$

M5-branes on $\mathbb{R}^{1,1} \times P$
 $P \in |MB + N\hat{C}|$



N D3-branes on $C \longleftrightarrow N$ M5-branes on \hat{C}

M KK monopoles $\longleftrightarrow M$ M5-branes on B

See also [Bena, Diaconescu, Florea]

$$\hat{C} \cdot \hat{C} \cdot \hat{C} = 0$$

\Rightarrow divisor \hat{C} not ample, not Poincaré dual to Kähler form

\Rightarrow no AdS dual to string from M5-branes wrapping \hat{C}

KK monopoles now M5-branes on B

→ Brown–Henneaux for holographic central charges for all M

$$c_R^{\text{M-th}} = 3N^2 MC \cdot C + 3N(2 - M^2)c_1(B) \cdot C$$

$$c_L^{\text{M-th}} = 3N^2 MC \cdot C + 3N(4 - M^2)c_1(B) \cdot C$$

Matches $c_{R,L}^{\text{IIB}}$ for $M = 1$

Includes both leading and subleading orders in N

→ also subsubleading → center of mass contributions

→ not discussed today (but agrees with microscopic constructions)

Construct general AdS₃ solution of IIB SUGRA with dual (0, 4) SCFT

Computed holographic central charges ($M = 1$)

$$c_R = 3N^2 C \cdot C + 3N c_1(B) \cdot C$$

$$c_L = 3N^2 C \cdot C + 9N c_1(B) \cdot C$$

Agrees with central charge computation from

- 1 11d supergravity
- 2 Self-dual strings in 6d
- 3 M5-brane anomaly inflow
- 4 Spectrum (for $N = 1$)

Recall that the general solution preserving $(0, 2)$ was

$$AdS_3 \times (S^1 \rightarrow Y_4)$$

with $\pi : Y_4 \rightarrow B_3$ is an elliptically fibered fourfold satisfying

$$\square_8 R_8 - \frac{1}{2} R_8^2 + R_{8ij} R_8^{ij} = 0$$

Recall: Y_4 is not necessarily Calabi–Yau

Formidable to solve in general

→ look at special solutions, eg, where [Couzens, Martelli, Schäfer-Nameki]

$$B_3 = \Sigma_1 \times M_2$$

(0, 2) Universal Twist Solutions and (2, 2) Solutions

“Universal twist solutions”

[Couzens, Martelli, Schäfer-Nameki]

$$Y_4 = \left\{ \begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{T}_3 & \leftrightarrow & \mathbb{E}_\tau \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \Sigma_1 \times M_2 & & \Sigma_1 \times M_2 \end{array} \right. \quad \text{or} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{E}_\tau & \hookrightarrow & S_2 \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \Sigma_1 \times M_2 & & \Sigma_1 \times M_2 \end{array} \right.$$

Neither elliptic surface S_2 nor elliptic threefold \mathcal{T}_3 are Calabi–Yau.

→ Dual SCFTs

→ topological duality twisted compactifications of 4d $\mathcal{N} = 1$

SCFTs

If (2, 2) SUSY is imposed and $S^1 \rightarrow Y_4$ is compact

⇒ Y_4 is trivial elliptic fibration

⇒ axio-dilaton does not vary

Moduli Space of Couplings and the Anomaly Polynomial

AP can contain terms \propto forms on moduli space of couplings

Example: 4d $\mathcal{N} = 2$ class \mathcal{S} theories [Tachikawa, Yonekura], [Bah, Nardoni]

Theories of class \mathcal{S} arise from M5-brane on C_g

\rightarrow integrate M5 AP over C_g to get class \mathcal{S} AP

$$I_6 = \int_C I_8 = - \left(\frac{h_G^\vee d_G}{6} c_2(R) + \frac{r_G}{12} \left(c_2(R) + \frac{1}{4} p_1(T_4) \right) \right) \int_{C_g} t^2 + \dots$$

t is c_1 of relative tangent bundle of C over \mathcal{M}_g , and [Wolpert]

$$\int_C t^2 \propto \omega^{WP}$$

where ω^{WP} is Weil–Petersson metric on \mathcal{M}_g

$\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM Anomaly Polynomial

Add coupling terms to $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM AP [CL, Schäfer-Nameki]

$$I_6 = \frac{1}{2}N^2c_3(S_6^+) - \frac{1}{2}Nc_2(S_6^+)c_1(\mathcal{L}_D) + \frac{1}{12}Nc_1(\mathcal{L}_D)^3 - \frac{1}{12}Nc_1(\mathcal{L}_D)p_1(T_4)$$

Topological twist along C :

$$I_4 = \int_C I_6 = c_2(R) \left[-\frac{1}{2}N^2C \cdot C - \frac{1}{2}Nc_1(B) \cdot C \right] + \dots$$

Central charge:

$$c_R = 6k_R = 3N^2C \cdot C + 3Nc_1(B) \cdot C$$

Matches AdS₃ supergravity dual

- Started **systematically** exploring holographic constructions in F-theory – varying axio-dilaton.
- Constructed AdS_3 solutions preserving $(0, 2)$, $(0, 4)$, and $(2, 2)$ SUSY in dual CFT_2
- For $(0, 4)$ we obtained a microscopic understanding of the holographic constructions
 - what about $G_3 \neq 0$ → all AdS_3 solutions dual to $(0, 4)$
- AdS duals to strings of minimal 6d SCFTs [del Zotto, Lockhart]
 - curve wrapped by D3-branes not ample
- Anomaly polynomials with $U(1)_D$ related terms
 - ⇒ information about field theories with varying coupling
 - extension to 4d $\mathcal{N} = 1$ SCFTs with F-theory duals

[Couzens, Martelli, Schäfer-Nameki], [CL, Schäfer-Nameki]