

# S-duality & Fivebrane Instantons

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# Calabi-Yau compactifications

The goal: to find the complete non-perturbative effective action in 4d for type II string theory compactified on arbitrary CY

## Type II string theory

compactification  
on a Calabi-Yau



$\mathcal{N}=2$  supergravity in 4d  
coupled to matter

supergravity multiplet (metric)  
vector multiplets (gauge fields & scalars)  
hypermultiplets (only scalars)

## Moduli space

$$\mathcal{M}_{VM} \times \mathcal{M}_{HM}$$

The low-energy effective action is determined by the metric on the *moduli space* parameterized by scalars of *vector* and *hypermultiplets*

- $\mathcal{M}_{VM}$  – *special Kähler* (given by  $F(z)$ )
- $F(z)$  is classically exact (no corrections in string coupling  $g_s$ )
- $\mathcal{M}_{HM}$  – *quaternion-Kähler*
- receives all types of  $g_s$ -corrections

known

unknown

The (concrete) goal: to find the non-perturbative geometry of  $\mathcal{M}_{HM}$

# Quantum corrections

Tree level HM metric

includes  $\alpha'$ -corrections  
(perturbative +  
worldsheet instantons)

+

$g_s$ - corrections

In the image of the c-map  
(captured by the prepotential  $F(z)$ )

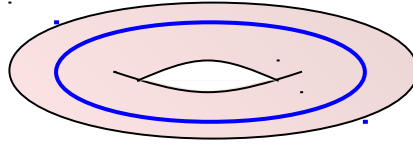
perturbative  
corrections

non-perturbative  
corrections

Instantons –  
(Euclidean) world volumes  
wrapping non-trivial cycles of CY

- D-brane instantons  
$$e^{-2\pi|Z_\gamma|/g_s - 2\pi i(q_\Lambda \zeta^\Lambda - p^\Lambda \tilde{\zeta}_\Lambda)}$$
  
S.A., Pioline, Saueressig, Vandoren '08,  
S.A. '09 (in type IIA picture)
- NS5-brane instantons  
$$e^{-2\pi|k|\mathcal{V}/g_s^2 - i\pi k\sigma}$$

one-loop correction  
controlled by  $\chi_X$



Antoniadis, Minasian, Theisen, Vanhove '03,  
Robles-Llana, Saueressig, Vandoren '06,

S.A. '07

remains to find

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The idea: Type IIA

Type IIB

$d_{\text{cycle}}$

1 ×  
3 D2  
5 ×

mirror  
symmetry

0 D(-1)  
2 D1  
4 D3  
6 D5

S-duality

One-instanton approximation – S.A., Persson, Pioline '10

# Twistor approach

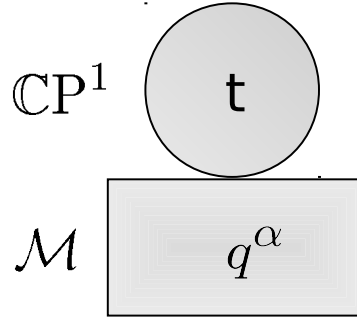
**The idea:** one should work at the level of the twistor space

Quaternionic structure:

quaternion algebra  
of *almost*  
complex structures

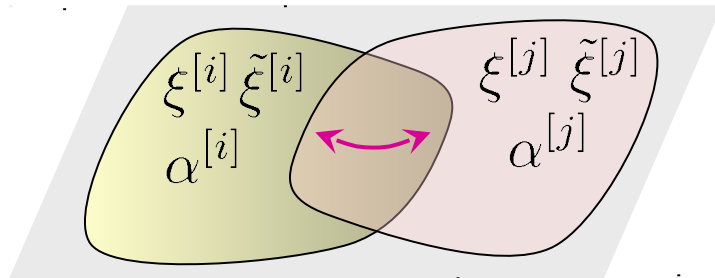
$$J^i J^j = \varepsilon^{ijk} J^k - \delta^{ij}$$

Twistor space



- $\mathcal{Z}_{\mathcal{M}}$  is a *Kähler manifold*
- carries *holomorphic contact structure*  $\mathcal{X} \equiv d\alpha + \xi^\Lambda d\tilde{\xi}_\Lambda$
- symmetries of  $\mathcal{M}$  can be lifted to *holomorphic* symmetries of  $\mathcal{Z}_{\mathcal{M}}$

The geometry is determined by  
*contact transformations*  
between sets of Darboux coordinates



$$\mathcal{X}^{[i]} \mapsto \mathcal{X}^{[j]} = \lambda \mathcal{X}^{[i]}$$



**Holomorphicity**

generated by  
**holomorphic functions**  
 $h^{[ij]}(\xi^{[i]}, \tilde{\xi}^{[i]}, \alpha^{[i]})$

# Contact Hamiltonians and instanton corrections

gluing conditions

$$\begin{pmatrix} \xi^{[j]} \\ \tilde{\xi}^{[j]} \\ \xi_{\Lambda}^{[j]} \\ \alpha^{[j]} \end{pmatrix} = e^{\{h^{[ij]}, \cdot\}} \begin{pmatrix} \xi^{[i]} \\ \tilde{\xi}^{[i]} \\ \xi_{\Lambda}^{[i]} \\ \alpha^{[i]} \end{pmatrix}$$



integral equations for “twistor lines”

$$\xi_{[i]}^{\Lambda}(q^{\alpha}, t) = A^{\Lambda} + t^{-1}Y^{\Lambda} - t\bar{Y}^{\Lambda} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_j \oint_{C_j} \frac{dt'}{2\pi i t'} \frac{t' + t}{t' - t} \left[ \left( e^{\{h^{[ij]}, \cdot\}} - 1 \right) \xi_{[i]}^{\Lambda}(t') \right]$$

$$\tilde{\xi}_{\Lambda}^{[i]}(q^{\alpha}, t) = \dots$$



metric on  $\mathcal{M}$

**It is sufficient to find holomorphic functions corresponding to quantum corrections**

contact bracket

$$\{h, \xi^{\Lambda}\} = -\partial_{\tilde{\xi}_{\Lambda}} h + \xi^{\Lambda} \partial_{\alpha} h$$

$$\{h, \tilde{\xi}_{\Lambda}\} = \partial_{\xi^{\Lambda}} h$$

$$\{h, \alpha\} = h - \xi^{\Lambda} \partial_{\xi^{\Lambda}} h$$

**D2-instantons in type IIA**

$$h^{[\gamma]}(\xi, \tilde{\xi}) = \frac{\Omega(\gamma)}{(2\pi)^2} \text{Li}_2 \left( e^{2\pi i (q_{\Lambda} \xi^{\Lambda} - p^{\Lambda} \tilde{\xi}_{\Lambda})} \right)$$

$\gamma = (q_{\Lambda}, p^{\Lambda})$  — D-brane charge

$\Omega(\gamma)$  — generalized DT invariants

$$\text{Li}_2(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n^2}$$

S.A., Pioline, Saueressig,  
Vandoren '08, S.A. '09

# S-duality in twistor space

**The idea:** to add all images of the D-instanton contributions under S-duality with a non-vanishing 5-brane charge

One must understand how S-duality is realized on twistor space and which constraints it imposes on the twistorial construction

Non-linear holomorphic representation of  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$  –duality group on  $\mathcal{Z}_{\mathcal{M}}$

$$\xi^0 \mapsto \frac{a\xi^0 + b}{c\xi^0 + d} \quad \xi^a \mapsto \frac{\xi^a}{c\xi^0 + d}$$

$$\tilde{\xi}_a \mapsto \tilde{\xi}_a + \frac{c}{2(c\xi^0 + d)} \kappa_{abc} \xi^b \xi^c$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \tilde{\xi}_0 \\ \alpha \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} d & -c \\ -b & a \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{\xi}_0 \\ \alpha \end{pmatrix} + \text{non-linear terms}$$

$$\mathcal{X} \mapsto \frac{\mathcal{X}}{c\xi^0 + d}$$

contact transformation

Transformation property of the contact bracket

$$\varrho \cdot \{h, f\} = \{\lambda^{-1} \varrho \cdot h, \varrho \cdot f\}$$

$$\varrho \cdot \mathcal{X} = \lambda \mathcal{X}$$

Condition for  $\mathcal{Z}_{\mathcal{M}}$  to carry an isometric action of  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$

$$h_{m,n}^{[i]} \mapsto \frac{h_{m',n'}^{[i]}}{c\xi^0 + d} + \text{reg.}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} m' \\ n' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a & c \\ b & d \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} m \\ n \end{pmatrix}$$

# Fivebrane instantons

The input:  $h_{0,p^0}^{[\gamma]} = h^{[\gamma]} \quad p^0 \neq 0$  — D5-brane charge

Apply  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$  transformation  $g = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ k/p^0 & p/p^0 \end{pmatrix} \in SL(2, \mathbb{Z}) \quad p^0 = \gcd(k, p)$

Compute fivebrane contact Hamiltonians

$$h_{k,p}^{[\gamma]} = (p^0)^{-1} (k\xi^0 + p) g \cdot h^{[\gamma]}$$

NS5-brane charge

$$n^a = \frac{p^a}{k}, \quad n^0 = \frac{p}{k}$$

$\hat{q}_\Lambda$  — invariant charges



$$h_{k,p}^{[\gamma]} = \frac{k\bar{\Omega}(\gamma)}{4\pi^2 p^0} (\xi^0 + n^0) \exp \left[ -k\alpha + kn^\Lambda \tilde{\xi}_\Lambda - kF^{\text{cl}}(\xi + n) + \frac{p^0(p^0 \hat{q}_0 - k\hat{q}_a(\xi^a + n^a))}{k^2(\xi^0 + n^0)} \right]$$

Encodes fivebrane instanton corrections to *all* orders of the instanton expansion

- One can evaluate the action on Darboux coordinates and write down the integral equations on twistor lines
- The contact structure is invariant under full U-duality group

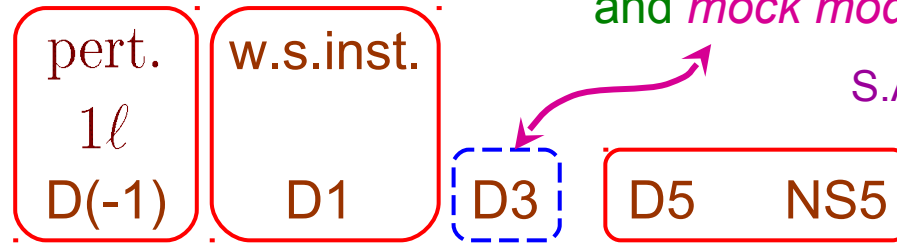


# Open issues

- Manifestly S-duality invariant description of D3-instantons

Quantum corrections in type IIB:

- $\alpha'$ -corrections:
- pert.  $g_s$ -corrections:
- instanton corrections:



- NS5-brane instantons in the Type IIA picture

Can the integrable structure of D-instantons in Type IIA be extended to include NS5-brane corrections?

Inclusion of NS5-branes ? quantum deformation



quantum dilog?

- Resolution of one-loop singularity
- Resummation of divergent series over brane charges (expected to be regularized by NS5-branes)

A-model topological wave function in the real polarization

Relation to the topological string wave function

$$\sum_{p, \gamma} h_{1,p}^{[\gamma]} \sim \sum_{n^\Lambda} e^{-\alpha + n^\Lambda \tilde{\xi}_\Lambda} \Psi_{\mathbb{R}}^{\text{top}}(\xi^\Lambda + n^\Lambda)$$