
Gromov-Witten Theory on Elliptic 4-folds

&

Weakness of Gravity in 4 Dimensions

Based mainly on

2008.xxxxx

w/ Daniel Klaewer, Timo Weigand, Max Wiesner

2005.10837

w/ Wolfgang Lerche, Guli Lockhart, Timo Weigand

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GLSM–2020@Virginia Tech/Online

20-08-20

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4-folds

4D N=1 Phys.

1808.05958

3-folds

6D N=(1,0) Phys.

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Motivation

Question 1: Gromov-Witten Theory

- **Modularity of GW Invariants on Elliptic 4-folds**

- Elliptic Calabi-Yau manifolds with non-trivial sections:

$\pi : Y_{d+1} \rightarrow B_d$ (**d=3 for 4-folds**) with $\text{rk}MW(\pi) > 0$ (*rk-1 mostly assumed in this talk*)

- Generating functions for appropriately collected GW invariants:

$$\mathcal{F}_{C_b; G_4}^{Y_4}(q, \xi) = \sum_{n, r} \langle G_4 \rangle_{C_b + nC_E + rC_f}^{Y_4} q^n \xi^r$$

- Such generating functions are expected to exhibit modularity

— **3-folds**: a lot known, Jacobi [Haghighat, Murthy, Vafa, Vandoren '15], [Huang, Katz, Klemm '15]

— **4-folds**: much less known, **not** Jacobi in general [S.-J.L., Lerche, Weigand '19]

◆ **Characterization of a behavior under modular/elliptic transformations?**

Motivation

Question 2: Weak Gravity Conjectures

- **Weak Gravity Conjecture(s)**

- Gravity is “weakest” [Arkani-Hamed, Motl, Nicolis, Vafa '06]

- ⊃ a super-extremal particle with $g^2 q^2 \geq \mu M^2$
- ⊃ a super-extremal *tower*
- ⊃ a super-extremal *sublattice*

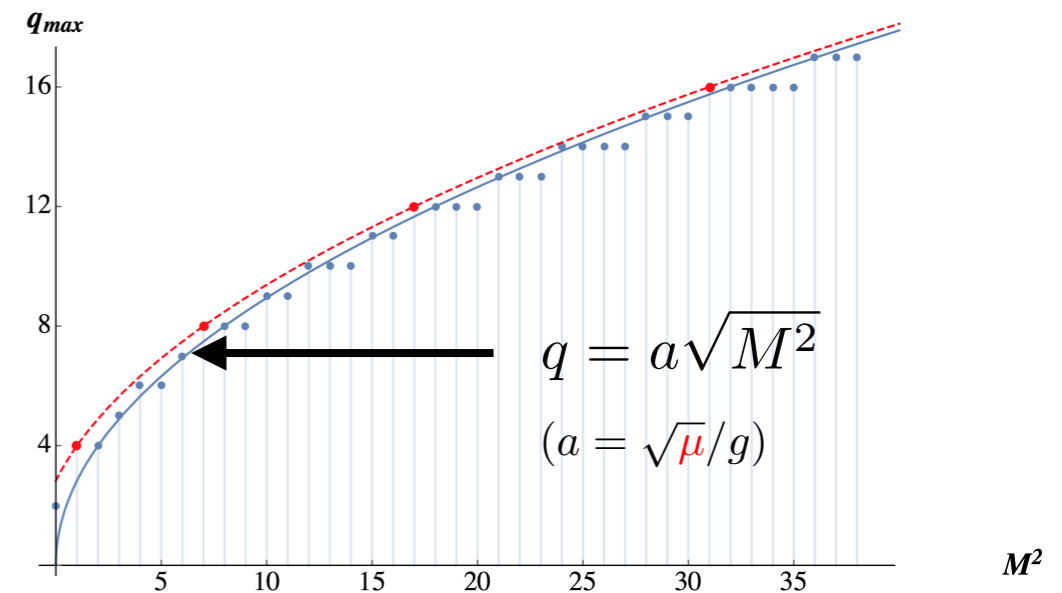
- Minimal ver. \Leftarrow Tower ver. \Leftarrow Sublattice ver.

- Verified in F-theory/heterotic compactifications (in weak gauge-coupling regimes) for

- General 6d $N=(1,0)$ EFTs [S.-J.L., Lerche, Weigand '18]

- Special (non-generic) 4d $N=1$ EFTs [S.-J.L., Lerche, Weigand '19]

- ◆ Verification for general EFTs with 4 supercharges?



Main Results

A Schematic Summary

- **Modularity of GW Invariants on Elliptic 4-folds**

- The generating functions, $\mathcal{F}_{C_b;G_4}^{Y_4}(q, \xi)$, once shifted as $\mathcal{Z} = -q^{E_0} \mathcal{F}$, take the form:

$$\mathcal{Z} = Z_{-1,m} + \xi \partial_{\xi} Z_{-2,m}$$

Jacobi forms of weight w ($= -1, -2$) and index m

to be determined by the topology

- Connection b/w GW theory on an elliptic CY 4-fold and those on 3-folds therein

- **Weak Gravity Conjecture(s)**

- The conjectures hold for general 4d N=1 compactifications of F-theory with fluxes
- There exist a tower of super-extremal particles, which form a (shifted) sublattice:
 - minimal, tower, and sublattice versions hold

Why Care

Where are GLSMs?

- **Modular Structure of GW invariants**
 - GLSM lovers also love GW invariants...
 - An analytic formula can be found for $\mathcal{F}_{C_b;G_4}(q, \xi)$ if **4-folds** admit a GLSM description
- **Elliptic Genera in **4d N=1** Theories**
 - $\mathcal{Z} = -q^{E_0} \mathcal{F}$ are in fact elliptic genera of certain solitonic strings with **N=(0,2)** SUSY
 - critical heterotic strings (perturbative or not)
 - non-critical strings (such as “E-strings”)
 - One can gain direct access to the elliptic genera via a UV GLSM (if exists)

Outline

Solitonic Strings in 4d F-theory

1. Arena

Rudiments of F-theory

Part I. Gromov-Witten Theory on Elliptic 4-folds

2. Elliptic Genera

Connection to the GW Theory and Modularity

3. Example

An Explicit Model with a $U(1)$ Vector

Part II. Weak Gravity Conjectures in 4 Dimensions

4. Tensionless String

Geometry of Weak-Coupling Limits

5. Super-Extremal Tower

Quasi-Jacobi Elliptic Genera

Conclusions

Solitonic Strings in 4d F-theory

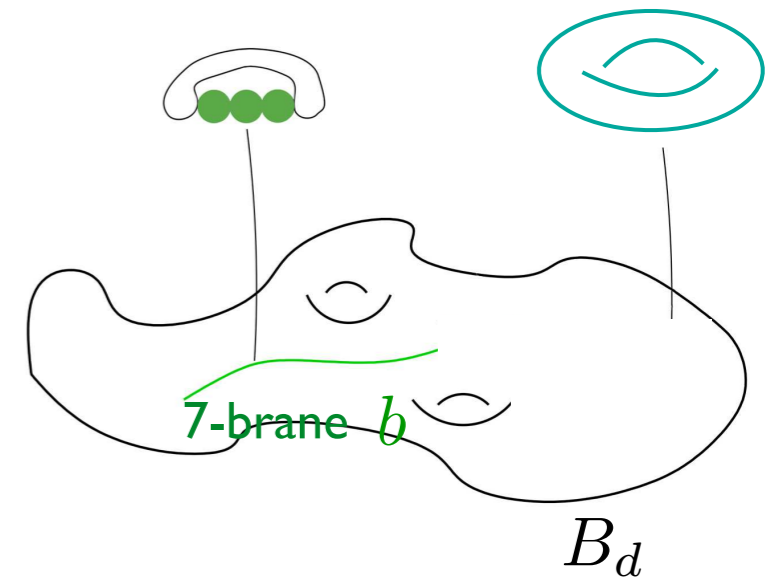
1/5. Arena

F-theory

Elliptic Fibration and Gauge Algebra

- **D-dim'l F-theory**

- IIB string theory on B_d with varying axio-dilaton
 - $d = 2, 3$ lead to eff. physics in $D = 10 - 2d = 6, 4$ dimensions
- Dilaton profile via an elliptic CY manifold, $\pi : Y_{d+1} \rightarrow B_d$
- Gauge fields from 7-branes on a divisor b



- **Gravity and Gauge Dynamics**

- Planck scale and gauge coupling are given as

$$\begin{aligned} M_{\text{Pl}}^{D-2} &\sim \text{vol}_J(B_d) \\ 1/g^2 &\sim \text{vol}_J(b) \end{aligned}$$

- In this talk: mostly assume $G=U(1)$ to be concrete

- **Moduli Space**

- The Kahler class J can be deformed to change the couplings

Geometric Origin of U(1)s

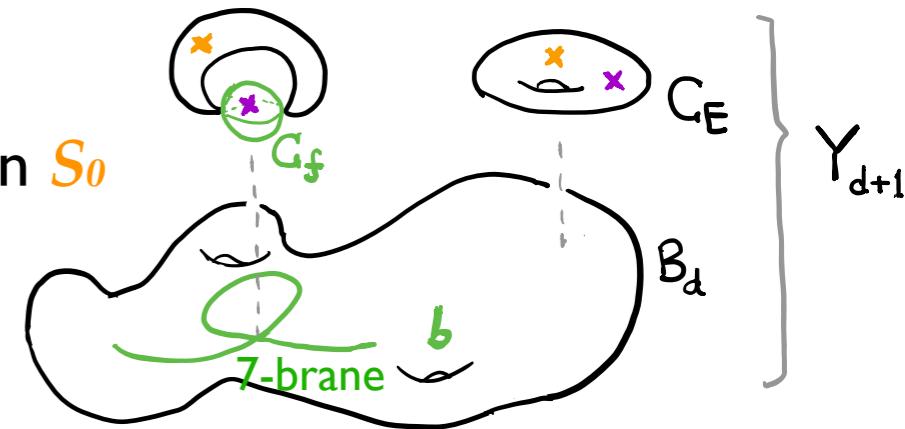
Sections and Shioda Map

- **Sections and Shioda Map**

- Non-zero (rational) section S in add. to the zero section S_0
- Shioda map (see e.g. the reviews [Weigand '18], [Cvetic, Lin '18])

$$\sigma(S) = S - S_0 - \pi^*(\mathcal{D})$$

w/ the def. properties: $\sigma \circ \pi^* w_6 = 0$, $\sigma \circ S_0 \circ \pi^* w_4 = 0 \quad \forall w_6 \in H^6(B_3), \quad w_4 \in H^4(B_3)$



- **U(1) Vectors**

- F/M-duality leads to a U(1) vector: $C_3 = A \wedge \sigma(S) + \dots$
- The gauge coupling is computed as $1/g^2 = \int_{Y_4} \sigma \wedge * \sigma \rightarrow \text{vol}(b)$
where $b := -\pi_*(\sigma \circ \sigma) \in H^2(B_3)$ is the height-pairing
- Fibral curve C_f (in addition to the full fiber C_E) leads to charged matter

$$(S_0, \sigma(S)) \circ C_E = (1, 0)$$

$$(S_0, \sigma(S)) \circ C_f = (0, 1)$$

Fluxes

Vertical and Transversal

- **Vertical Fluxes**

from $H^{4,0}(Y_4)$ via variation of Hodge structure

$H^{1,1}(Y_4) \wedge H^{1,1}(Y_4)$

- Supersymmetric fluxes $G_4 \in H^{2,2}(Y_4) = H_{\text{hor}}^{2,2}(Y_4) \oplus H_{\text{vert}}^{2,2}(Y_4) \oplus H_{\text{rem}}^{2,2}(Y_4)$ [Greene, Morrison, Plesser '94] [Braun, Watari '14]
- Genus-0 GW invariants via mirror symmetry of 4-folds:

IIA on X_4 with $G_4^X \in H_{\text{hor}}^{2,2}(X_4)$ ◀.....▶ IIA on Y_4 with $G_4^Y \in H_{\text{vert}}^{2,2}(Y_4)$

- **4d F-theory on Y_4**

- Lorenz inv. imposes the fluxes to lie in the transversal subspace $H_{(-1)}^{2,2}(Y_4, \mathbb{R})$:

$$\begin{aligned} G_4 \circ \pi^* D^\alpha \circ \pi^* D^\beta &= 0 \\ G_4 \circ S_0 \circ \pi^* D^\alpha &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\forall D^\alpha \in H^{1,1}(B_3)$$

- The vertical flux space decompose in general as

$$H_{\text{vert}}^{2,2}(Y_4, \mathbb{R}) = H_{(0)}^{2,2}(Y_4, \mathbb{R}) \oplus H_{(-1)}^{2,2}(Y_4, \mathbb{R}) \oplus H_{(-2)}^{2,2}(Y_4, \mathbb{R})$$

$$\text{Span}\langle (S_0 + \frac{1}{2}\pi^* \bar{K}_{B_3}) \wedge \pi^* D^\alpha \rangle$$

$$\text{Span}\langle \sigma(S) \wedge \pi^* D^\alpha \rangle$$

Transversal U(1) Fluxes

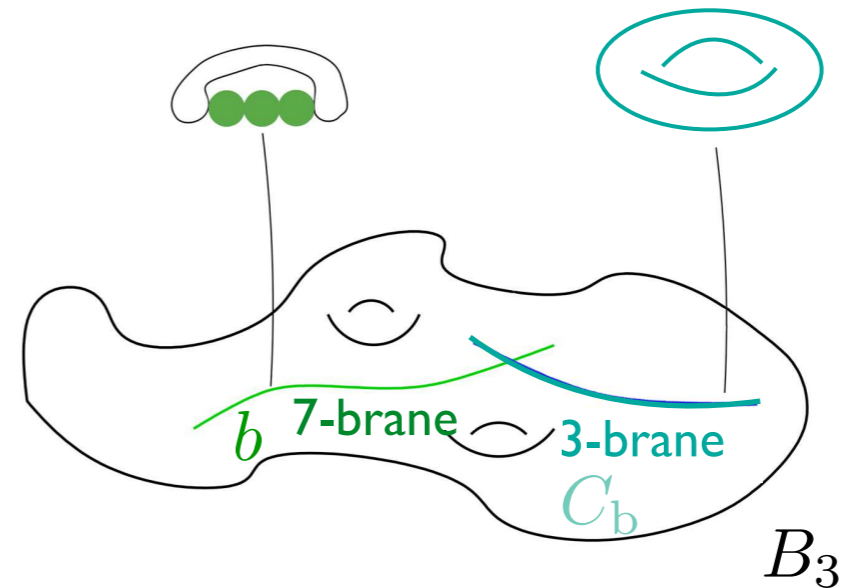
$$\text{Span}\langle \pi^* D^\alpha \wedge \pi^* D^\beta \rangle$$

Rudiments

Solitonic Strings

- **Branes on Curves**

- **D7** brane on b : gauge multiplet
- **D3** brane on C_b : effective string



- **The String WS**

- Twisted reduction along C_b of $N=4$ SYM with varying coupling \longrightarrow $N=(0,2)$ WS of a 4d string

[Martucci '14], [Haghighat, Murthy, Vafa, Vandoren '15], [Lawrie, Schafer-Nameki, Weigand '16]

- 3-7 modes present at $C_b \cdot b$ are charged under the 4d gauge group

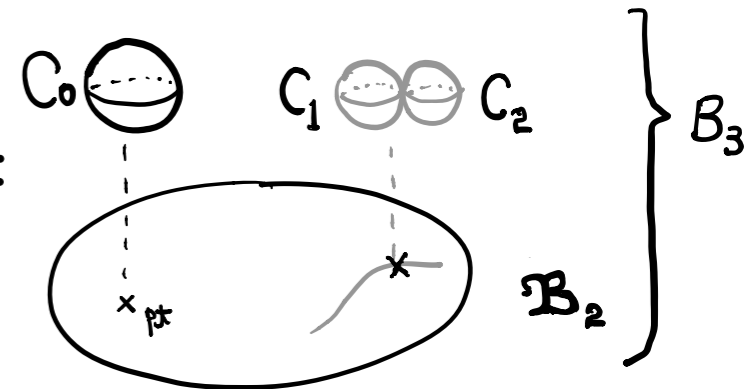
Rudiments

Solitonic Strings: Critical or Non-Critical

- **Fibered Base 3-fold**

- Will mostly consider base B_3 's admitting a rational fibration:

$$p : B_3 \rightarrow \mathfrak{B}_2 \quad , \quad C_0 := p^{-1}(pt)$$



- **D3 on $C_b = C_0$**

- 4d critical heterotic string
- Normal bundle $\mathcal{O} \oplus \mathcal{O}$
- #(charged Fermi fields in the 3-7 sector) = $8\bar{K}_{B_3} \cdot C_0 = 16$ $\rightarrow E_8 \times E_8$ or $SO(32)$

- **D3 on $C_b = C_a$ ($a=1,2$)**

- 4d non-critical “E-string”
- Normal bundle $\mathcal{O}(-1) \oplus \mathcal{O}$
- #(charged Fermi fields in the 3-7 sector) = $8\bar{K}_{B_3} \cdot C_0 = 8$ $\rightarrow E_8$

Part I.

Gromov-Witten Theory on Elliptic 4-folds

2/5. Elliptic Genera

Elliptic Genera

U(1)-Refined

- **Elliptic Genus**

- $\mathcal{Z}(\tau, z) \equiv \text{Tr}_{\text{RR}} [(-1)^F F q^{H_L} \bar{q}^{H_R} \xi^J]$, where $q = e^{2\pi i\tau}$ and $\xi = e^{2\pi iz}$
- Refined by U(1) flavor fugacity: especially crucial in 4d as $\mathcal{Z}(\tau, z = 0) = 0$
- Information on the left-movers of the N=(0,2) worldsheet CFT
- For the heterotic case: level-matched to give particle excitations

- **In the Current Context**

- Expansion coefficients are (related to) the GW invariants
- Well-defined behavior under modular/elliptic transformations

Connection to GW Theory

6d Strings

- **F/M Duality**

6d F-theory on S^1

[Klemm, Mayr, Vafa '96]

5d M-theory

- String wrapped on the S^1 with winding 1 and momentum n
- Elliptic genus of 6d string

- M2 wrapped on $C_b + n C_E$
- BPS invariants for the 5d particles

$$\mathcal{Z}_{C_b}^{Y_3}(\tau, z) = -q^{E_0} \sum N(n, r) q^n \xi^r, \quad \text{with } E_0 = -\frac{1}{2} C_b \cdot \bar{K}_{B_2}$$

- Expansion coefficients $N(n, r)$
- (τ, z)

- Genus-0 GW invariants:
 $\langle \cdot \rangle_{C_{n,r}}^{Y_3}$ for $C_{n,r} = C_b + n C_E + r C_f$
- Kahler parameters for (C_E, C_f)

- **GW Invariants on Elliptic 3-folds**

- $\mathcal{F}_{C_b}^{Y_3}(q, \xi) = \sum_{n,r} \langle \cdot \rangle_{C_{n,r}}^{Y_3} q^n \xi^r$, computable via mirror symmetry for 3-folds

- $\mathcal{Z}_{C_b}^{Y_3}(q, \xi) = -q^{E_0} \mathcal{F}_{C_b}^{Y_3}(q, \xi)$

[Klemm, Mayr, Vafa '96],

[Haghighat, Iqbal, Kozcaz, Lockhart, Vafa '13],

[Haghighat, Klemm, Lockhart, Vafa '14] ...

Connection to GW Theory

4d Strings

- **Proposal** (analogy with 3-fold cases)

For the string associated w/ a primitive base curve C_b , the $N(n, r)$ is the genus-0 GW invariant for the curve $C_{n,r} = C_b + n C_E + r C_f$ w.r.t. the flux $G \in H^{2,2}(Y_4)$:

$$N(n, r) = \langle G \rangle_{0, C_{n,r}}^{Y_4} (=:\langle G \rangle_{C_{n,r}}^{Y_4})$$

- **GW Invariants on Elliptic 4-folds with Fluxes**

- $\mathcal{F}_{C_b;G}^{Y_4}(q, \xi) = \sum_{n,r} \langle G \rangle_{C_{n,r}}^{Y_4} q^n \xi^r$, computable via mirror symmetry for 4-folds

- $\mathcal{Z}_{C_b;G}^{Y_4}(q, \xi) = -q^{E_0} \mathcal{F}_{C_b;G}^{Y_4}(q, \xi)$, with $E_0 = -\frac{1}{2} C_b \cdot \bar{K}_{B_3}$

[Greene, Morrison, Plesser '94], [Mayr '97],
[Klemm, Yau '98], [Haghighat, Movasati, Yau '15],
[Cota, Klemm, Schimannek '17]

- **Remarks**

- $\langle A_1, \dots, A_n \rangle_{g,C}^{Y_{d+1}}$ count stable maps with n pts fixed, whose images lie in $A_i \in H_*(Y_{d+1})$

- Stable-map moduli space has $\dim_v \mathcal{M}_{g,n}(Y_{d+1}, C) = (d-2)(1-g) + n = 2$

- Natural 4-fold invariants: $\langle G \rangle_C^{Y_4} = [\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}(Y_4, C)]^{\text{vir}} \text{ev}^* G$, $G \in H^4(Y_4)$

for Calabi-Yau

for $d=3, g=0$ and $n=1$

Modularity

6d Strings

- **Jacobi** [almost]

- The elliptic genus $\mathcal{Z}_{C_b}^{Y_3}$ of a 6d string is a (mero. weak) Jacobi form [mod E_2 's]

— Modular/elliptic transform:
$$\varphi_{w,m} \left(\frac{a\tau + b}{c\tau + d}, \frac{z}{c\tau + d} \right) = (c\tau + d)^w e^{2\pi i \frac{mc}{c\tau + d} \frac{z^2}{2}} \varphi_{w,m}(\tau, z)$$

$$\varphi_{w,m}(\tau, z + \lambda\tau + \mu) = e^{-2\pi im(\frac{\lambda^2}{2}\tau + \lambda z)} \varphi_{w,m}(\tau, z)$$

— Ring of Jacobi forms: $\mathcal{J}_{*,*} = \bigoplus \mathcal{J}_{w,m} = \mathbb{C}[E_4, E_6, \phi_{0,1}, \phi_{-2,1}, \phi_{-1,2}]$

- Expected **weight** and **index** are

— $w = -\frac{D-2}{2} = -2$ (true e.g. of pert. het. string in **D=6** dim) [Schellekens, Warner '86] ...

— $m = \frac{1}{2}b \cdot C_b$, where b is the $U(1)$ height-pairing and C_b is the base curve [S.-J.L., Lerche, Weigand '18]

- **Appearance of E_2 's**

- Quasi-modularity if C_b splits: e.g., $C_0 = C_1 + C_2$ [Alim, Scheidegger '12], [Klemm, Manschot, Wotschke '12] ...

- Modular vs. holomorphic anomalies: E_2 vs. $\hat{E}_2 := E_2 - \frac{3}{\pi \text{Im}(\tau)}$

Modularity

4d Strings

- **Jacobi** [almost] ?

- The elliptic genus $\mathcal{Z}_{C_b;G}^{Y_4}$ of a 4d string is **not** Jacobi [even mod E_2 's]

- Expected would-be **weight** and **index** are

- $w = -\frac{D-2}{2} = -1$

- $m = \frac{1}{2}b \cdot C_b$, where b is the height-pairing and C_b is the base curve

- **Appearance of a “Derivative Sector”**

- **Prop.** $\mathcal{Z}_{C_b;G}^{Y_4}(q, \xi) = Z_{-1,m}(q, \xi) + \xi \partial_\xi Z_{-2,m}(q, \xi)$ [S.-J.L., Lerche, Lockhart, Weigand '20]

$$Z_{-1,m}(q, \xi) = \frac{\Phi_{w,m}^{\text{QM}}(q, \xi)}{\eta(q)^{12C_b \cdot \bar{K}_{B_3}}}$$

$$w = -1 + 6C_b \cdot \bar{K}_{B_3}$$

$$Z_{-2,m}(q, \xi) = \frac{\Phi_{w-1,m}^{\text{QM}}(q, \xi)}{\eta(q)^{12C_b \cdot \bar{K}_{B_3}}}$$

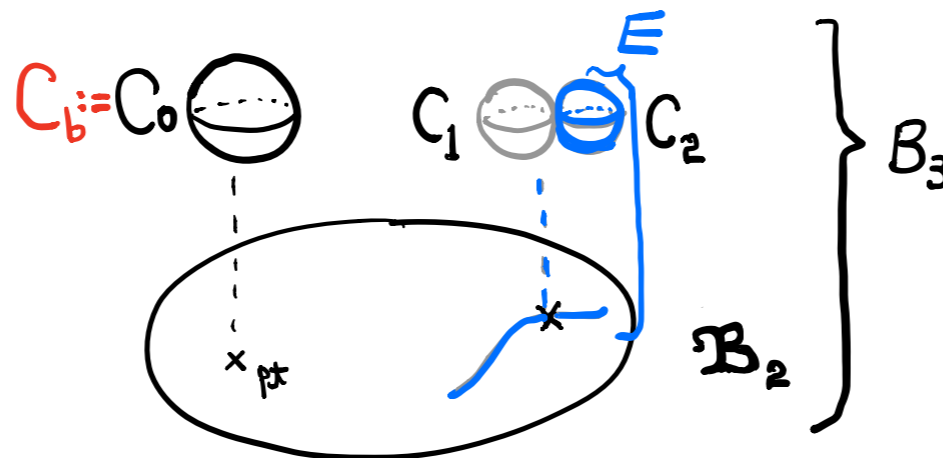
$$m = \frac{1}{2}b \cdot C_b$$

Derivative Sector

4d Heterotic String

- **Fibered Base 3-fold**

- A rational fibration p , with the fibers degenerating along a single curve in \mathfrak{B}_2



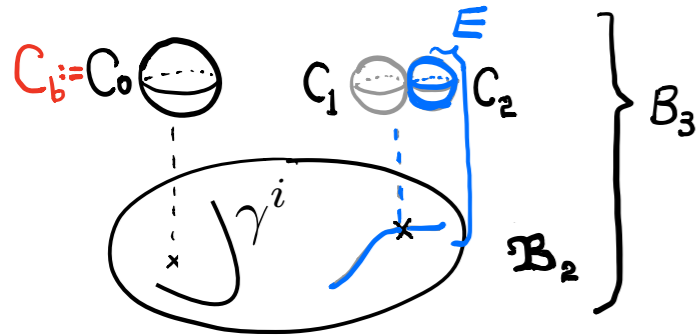
- Blowup divisor E and exceptional section S_-

- **Flux Basis**

- $G_{U(1)}^\alpha = \sigma \wedge \pi^* D^\alpha, \quad \alpha = 1, \dots, h^{1,1}(B_3)$

where the divisor basis can be taken, e.g., as $D^\alpha \in \{S_-, E, p^* \gamma^i\}$

$$H^{1,1}(\mathfrak{B}_2) = \text{Span} \langle \gamma^i \rangle_{i=1, \dots, h^{1,1}(\mathfrak{B}_2)}$$



Derivative Sector

Geometric Origin [S.-J.L., Lerche, Lockhart, Weigand '20]

Study $\langle G^\alpha \rangle_{C_{n,r}}^{Y_4}$ for curve classes $C_{n,r} = C_0 + n C_E + r C_f$
 where $G^\alpha = \sigma \wedge \pi^* D^\alpha$, $D^\alpha \in \{S_-, E, p^* \gamma^i\}$

• Special Fluxes

- For $G^{\alpha=i} = \sigma \wedge \pi^* p^* \gamma^i$:

Divisor equation

$$\langle G^i \rangle_{C_{n,r}}^{Y_4} = \langle \sigma \rangle_{C_{n,r}}^{Y_3^i := \pi^* p^* \gamma^i} = (\sigma \cdot C_{n,r}) \langle \cdot \rangle_{C_{n,r}}^{Y_3^i} = r \langle \cdot \rangle_{C_{n,r}}^{Y_3^i} \Rightarrow \mathcal{Z}_{C_0; c_i G^i}^{Y_4}(q, \xi) = \xi \partial_\xi \mathcal{Z}_{C_0}^{Y_3 := \pi^* p^* (c_i \gamma^i)}(q, \xi)$$

- For $G_{QM} = \sigma \wedge \pi^* D$ with $D \cdot b \cdot p^* \gamma = 0 \quad \forall \gamma \in H^{1,1}(B_2)$ (dubbed as **Quasi-Modular fluxes**):

$\mathcal{Z}_{C_0; G_{QM}}^{Y_4}(q, \xi)$ is a Jacobi form of $w = -1$ and $m = \frac{1}{2} b \cdot C_b$ [S.-J.L., Lerche, Weigand '19]

• General Fluxes

- $\mathcal{Z}_{C_b; G}(q, \xi) = Z_{-1, m}(q, \xi) + \xi \partial_\xi Z_{-2, m}(q, \xi)$

- Used $\mathcal{Z}_{C_0}^{Y_3}(q, \xi)$ is a Jacobi form of $w = -2$ and $m = \frac{1}{2} b \cdot C_b$

— 1) Physically clear if the hyper surface Y_3 is Calabi-Yau

— 2) Observed $Z_{-2, m}(q, \xi) = \mathcal{Z}_{C_0; G_{(-2)}}(q, \xi)$ for $G_{(-2)} = \pi^* D \wedge \pi^* b$ (cf.) [Oberdieck, Pixton '17]

- Manifestation of the quasi-Jacobi nature (cf.) [Oberdieck, Pixton '17]

Quasi-Jacobi Forms

Definition and Examples

- **Definition**

- An almost holo. function:

$$\Phi(\tau, z) = \sum_{i,j \geq 0} \varphi_{i,j}(\tau, z) \left(\frac{1}{\text{Im}\tau} \right)^i \left(\frac{\text{Im}z}{\text{Im}\tau} \right)^j$$

- If $\Phi(\tau, z)$ transforms as a Jacobi form, then $\varphi_{0,0}(\tau, z)$ is called quasi-Jacobi

- **Examples**

- $E_2(\tau)$ is a quasi-Jacobi form:

$$\hat{E}_2(\tau) := E_2(\tau) - \frac{3}{\pi \text{Im}\tau}$$

- $\xi \partial_\xi \varphi_{w,m}(\tau, z)$ is a quasi-Jacobi form:

$$\left(\xi \partial_\xi + 4\pi i m \frac{\text{Im}z}{\text{Im}\tau} \right) \varphi_{w,m}(\tau, z) = \varphi_{w+1,m}(\tau, z)$$

⇒ 4d $N=(0,2)$ elliptic genera are a (mero.) quasi-Jacobi form!

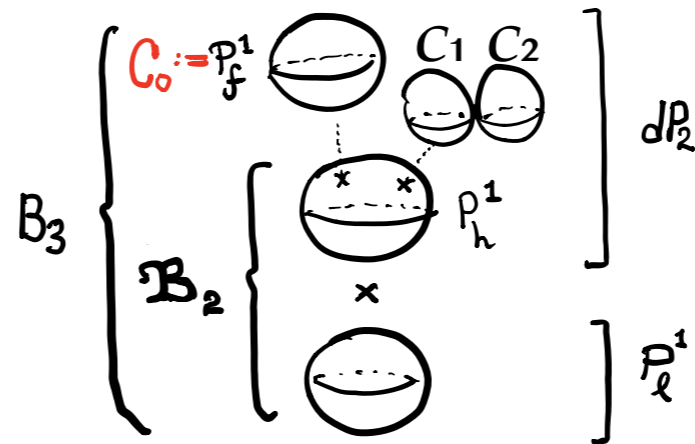
3/5. Example

[S.-J.L., Lerche, Lockhart, Weigand '20]

The 3-Base and the Elliptic Fibration

$\text{Bl}_1 P_{112}^2[4]$ Fibration on $dP_2 \times P_\ell^1$

- **Base**, $B_3 = dP_2 \times P_\ell^1$



- **Rational Fibration**

- dP_2 viewed as $\text{Bl}_1 F_1$, where F_1 is a fibration of P_f^1 ($:= C_0$) over P_h^1
- $p : B_3 \rightarrow \mathfrak{B}_2$ with $\mathfrak{B}_2 = P_h^1 \times P_\ell^1$

- **Cohomology Basis**

- $H^{1,1}(\mathfrak{B}_2) = \text{Span} \langle \gamma^1, \gamma^2 \rangle$ with $\gamma^1 = P_h^1$, $\gamma^2 = P_\ell^1$
- $H^{1,1}(B_3) = \text{Span} \langle D^\alpha \rangle$ with $D^1 = p^* \gamma^2$, $D^2 = S_-$, $D^3 = p^* \gamma^1$, $D^4 = p^* \gamma^2 + S_- - E$
 where $S_- \simeq P_h^1 \times P_\ell^1$ is the exceptional section and $E \simeq C_2 \times P_\ell^1$ is the blowup divisor

The 3-Base and the Elliptic Fibration

$\text{Bl}_1 P_{112}^2[4]$ Fibration on $dP_2 \times P_\ell^1$

- **Fiber, $\text{Bl}_1 P_{112}^2[4]$**

- To realize $rk-1$ Mordell-Weil lattice
- Fibral toric coordinates: u, v, w, s w/ the GLSM charges,

u	v	w	s
1	1	2	0
0	1	1	1

- **Fibration** [Morrison, Park '12]

- Take a hypersurface of the form:

$$\hat{P} = sw^2 + b_0s^2u^2w + b_1suvw + b_2v^2w + c_0s^3u^4 + c_1s^2u^3v + c_2su^2v^2 + c_3uv^3$$

$$\begin{aligned} [b_0] &= \beta, & [b_1] &= \bar{K}, & [b_2] &= 2\bar{K} - \beta, & [c_0] &= 2\beta, \\ [c_1] &= \beta + \bar{K}, & [c_2] &= 2\bar{K}, & [c_3] &= 3\bar{K} - \beta, & [c_4] &= 4\bar{K} - 2\beta. \end{aligned}$$

- Take $\beta = 2\bar{K}_{B_3}$
- Height pairing, $b := -\pi_*(\sigma \circ \sigma) = 6\bar{K}_{B_3} - 2\beta = 2\bar{K}_{B_3}$

Computation of the Elliptic Genera

4/6d Heterotic Strings

- **Flux Basis**

$$G^\alpha = \sigma \wedge \pi^* D^\alpha, \quad \alpha = 1, \dots, 4 (= h^{1,1}(B_3)) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \text{Most general flux } G = c_\alpha G^\alpha$$

- **Low-Degree Invariants = Expansion of the Elliptic Genera**

- 4d heterotic string (\mathcal{F} on Y_4):

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{Z}_{C_0;G}^{Y_4} = & - [96c_1\xi^{\pm\bar{1}} + 48c_2\xi^{\pm\bar{1}} + 84c_3\xi^{\pm\bar{1}} + 96c_4\xi^{\pm\bar{1}}] \\ & - q [c_1(69280\xi^{\pm\bar{1}} + 20384\xi^{\pm\bar{2}} + 288\xi^{\pm\bar{3}} - 8\xi^{\pm\bar{4}}) \\ & \quad + c_2(99552\xi^{\pm\bar{1}} + 29088\xi^{\pm\bar{2}} + 480\xi^{\pm\bar{3}} - 12\xi^{\pm\bar{4}}) \\ & \quad + c_3(65164\xi^{\pm\bar{1}} + 18896\xi^{\pm\bar{2}} + 252\xi^{\pm\bar{3}} - 8\xi^{\pm\bar{4}}) \\ & \quad + c_4(134192\xi^{\pm\bar{1}} + 39280\xi^{\pm\bar{2}} + 624\xi^{\pm\bar{3}} - 16\xi^{\pm\bar{4}})] \\ & + \mathcal{O}(q^2), \end{aligned} \tag{B.20}$$

- 6d heterotic strings (\mathcal{F} on Y_3^i):

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{Z}_{C_0}^{Y_3^1} = & 2/q - (252 + 84\xi^{\pm 1}) - (116580 + 65164\xi^{\pm 1} + 9448\xi^{\pm 2} + 84\xi^{\pm 3} - 2\xi^{\pm 4}) q \\ & - (6238536 + 3986964\xi^{\pm 1} + 965232\xi^{\pm 2} + 65164\xi^{\pm 3} + 252\xi^{\pm 4}) q^2 + \mathcal{O}(q^3), \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathcal{Z}_{C_0}^{Y_3^2} = 2/q - (288 + 96\xi^{\pm 1}) - (123756 + 69280\xi^{\pm 1} + 10192\xi^{\pm 2} + 96\xi^{\pm 3} - 2\xi^{\pm 4}) q + \mathcal{O}(q^2)$$

Analytic Expression for the Elliptic Genera

4/6d Heterotic Strings

$$\begin{aligned}
 Z_{C_0;G}^{Y_4} &= -[96c_1\xi^{\pm\bar{1}} + 48c_2\xi^{\pm\bar{1}} + 84c_3\xi^{\pm\bar{1}} + 96c_4\xi^{\pm\bar{1}}] \\
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 &\quad + \mathcal{O}(q^2), \\
 &= \underbrace{(c_2 + c_4)}_{D \cdot C_0} Z_{-1,2}^0 + \underbrace{4(c_2 + c_3 + c_4)}_{D \cdot b \cdot p^* \gamma_1} \frac{1}{4} \xi \partial_\xi Z_{-2,2}^1 + \underbrace{2(2c_1 + c_2 + 2c_4)}_{D \cdot b \cdot p^* \gamma_2} \frac{1}{4} \xi \partial_\xi Z_{-2,2}^2
 \end{aligned} \tag{B.20}$$

where

$$Z_{-1,2}^0 \equiv 84\varphi_{-1,2}$$

$$Z_{-2,2}^1 \equiv \frac{1}{12} \frac{1}{\eta^{24}} (14E_4E_{6,2} + 10E_{4,2}E_6 - E_{4,1}E_{6,1}) + \frac{1}{12} \frac{1}{\eta^{24}} E_2E_{4,1}^2$$

$$Z_{-2,2}^2 \equiv \frac{1}{12} \frac{1}{\eta^{24}} (14E_4E_{6,2} + 10E_{4,2}E_6)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 Z_{C_0}^{Y_3^1} &= 2/q - (252 + 84\xi^{\pm 1}) - (116580 + 65164\xi^{\pm 1} + 9448\xi^{\pm 2} + 84\xi^{\pm 3} - 2\xi^{\pm 4}) q \\
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 Z_{C_0}^{Y_3^2} &= 2/q - (288 + 96\xi^{\pm 1}) - (123756 + 69280\xi^{\pm 1} + 10192\xi^{\pm 2} + 96\xi^{\pm 3} - 2\xi^{\pm 4}) q + \mathcal{O}(q^2) = Z_{-2,2}^2
 \end{aligned}$$

Part II.

Weak Gravity Conjectures in 4 Dimensions

4/5. Tensionless String

Quantum Gravity Conjectures

String-Theoretic Approach

- **Quantum Gravity Conjectures ~ Swampland Conjectures**
 - Consistency constraints Quantum Gravity (QG) is believed to impose
 - *Landscape v.s. Swampland* in the context of string theory
- **Conjectures in the Literature**
 - **No Global Symmetry** [Banks, Dixon '88]
Gauge coupling g cannot become zero in presence of gravity
 - **Completeness** [Polchinski '03]
The entire charge lattice must be populated by physical particles
 - **Weak Gravity** [Arkani-Hamed, Motl, Nicolis, Vafa '06], [Heidenreich, Reece, Rudelius '16-'17], [Montero, Shiu, Soler '16]
A (sub)lattice/tower of charged particles with $g^2 q^2 \geq \mu M^2$ should exist
 - **Distance Conjecture** [Ooguri, Vafa '06]
An “infinite” deformation of physics leads to a tower of particles with their masses exponentially suppressed

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What happens if it does?

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δd : [S.-J.L., Lerche, Weigand '18-'19]

$4d$: [Klaewer, S.-J.L., Weigand, Wiesner: to appear]

- **Weak Gravity** [Arkani-Hamed, Motl, Nicolis, Vafa '06], [Heidenreich, Reece, Rudelius '16-'17], [Montero, Shiu, Soler '16]

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We will confirm these for "Open Strings"

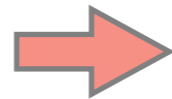
Weak-Coupling Limit & a Shrinking Curve

6d F-theory [S.-J.L., Lerche, Weigand '18]

- **The Key Geometric Statement**

In the weak-coupling limit where $\text{vol}_J(b) (\sim 1/g^2) \rightarrow \infty$ while $\text{vol}_J(B_2) (\sim M_{\text{Pl}}^4) = 1$ is fixed, one can find a shrinking curve C_0 with the following properties:

1. $\text{vol}_J(C_0) \rightarrow 0$
2. $C_0 \cdot b \neq 0$
3. $C_0 \cdot C_0 = 0$
4. $C_0 \cdot \bar{K} = 2$ ($g(C_0) = 0$)

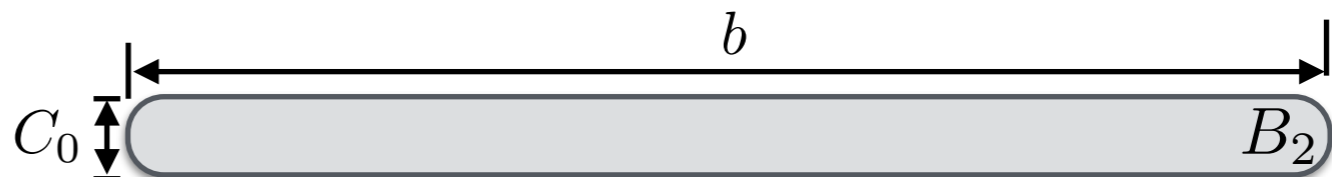
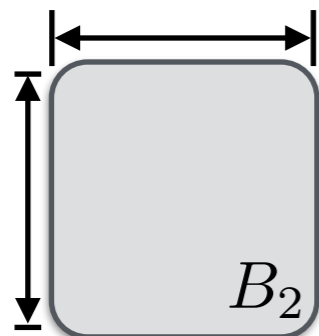


**Unique,
Tensionless,
Charged,
Heterotic String**

In fact, the shrinking curve class is unique (up to scaling) if we demand $C_0 \cdot C_0 \geq 0$

- **An Intuition**

“If one direction is big its normal direction must be small”



Weak-Coupling Limit & a Shrinking Curve

Existence in 6d F-theory [S.-J.L., Lerche, Weigand '18]

• Existence Proof

Step 1: With $\overline{\mathbf{K}(B_2)} = \langle J_0, I_\nu \rangle$, we have

$$J = tJ_0 + \sum_{\nu} s_{\nu} I_{\nu}$$

where $t \rightarrow \infty$ and s_{ν} stay finite

▪ For $\text{vol}(b) \rightarrow \infty$, (exactly) one coefficient must go to infinity; call it t

▪ The volume of B_2 takes the form,

$$\text{vol}(B_2) = t^2 \frac{J_0 \cdot J_0}{2} + t \underbrace{n_{\nu} s_{\nu}}_{J_0 \cdot I_{\nu}} + \frac{s_{\nu} s_{\mu} n_{\nu\mu}}{2} \underbrace{\phantom{n_{\nu\mu}}}_{I_{\nu} \cdot I_{\mu}}$$

▪ Importantly, for $\text{vol}(B_2) = 1$ with $t \rightarrow \infty$,

$$\boxed{J_0 \cdot J_0 = 0} \quad \text{and} \quad \boxed{n_{\nu} s_{\nu} \rightarrow \frac{1}{t}}$$

Step 2: J_0 is the class of a holomorphic curve C_0 with the desired properties

1. $\text{vol}(C_0) \rightarrow 0$

$$\text{vol}(C_0) = J \cdot C_0 = n_{\nu} s_{\nu} \rightarrow \frac{1}{t}$$

2. $C_0 \cdot b \neq 0$

$$\text{vol}(b) = J \cdot b = t \overset{2m}{\text{ii}} \underbrace{C_0 \cdot b}_{\neq 0} + \cancel{s_{\nu} I_{\nu} \cdot b} \rightarrow \infty$$

3. $C_0 \cdot C_0 = 0$

4. $C_0 \cdot \bar{K} = 2$

$$2g(C_0) - 2 = C_0 \cdot (C_0 + K) = -J_0 \cdot \bar{K} \not\leq 0 \\ \Rightarrow g(C_0) = 0, \quad C_0 \cdot \bar{K} = 2$$

Weak-Coupling Limit & a Shrinking Curve

Uniqueness in 6d F-theory [S.-J.L., Lerche, Weigand '18]

- **Better be Unique** (up to scaling)
 - Existence has been addressed: C_0
 - Another shrinking curve C w/ $C \cdot C \geq 0$, if exists, would bring a physical problem
- **Uniqueness Proof**
 - Essentially **due to the $(1, n_\tau)$ signature of the two-cycle intersections** in B_2
 - The argument:
 - Suppose another curve C shrinks with $C \cdot C$ non-negative.
 - $C_0 = (a_0; a_1, \dots, a_{n_\tau})$, $C = (b_0; b_1, \dots, b_{n_\tau})$.
 - $$C_0 \cdot C_0 = 0 \quad \longrightarrow \quad a_0^2 = \sum a_i^2$$
 - $$C_0 \cdot C = J_0 \cdot C = 0 \quad \longrightarrow \quad a_0 b_0 = \sum a_i b_i$$
 - Cauchy-Schwarz gives $a_0^2 \mathbf{b_0^2} = (\sum a_i b_i)^2 \leq (\sum a_i^2)(\sum b_i^2) = a_0^2 (\sum b_i^2)$
 - For equality to hold, C must be proportional to C_0

Weak-Coupling Limit & a Shrinking Curve

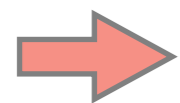
4d F-theory [Klaewer, S.-J.L., Weigand, Wiesner: to appear]

- **The Key Geometric Statement**

In the weak-coupling limit*, there *exists* a *unique* genus-0 curve C_0 *shrinking at a fastest rate*

with normal bundle $\mathcal{N}_{C_0/B_3} = \mathcal{O}_{C_0} \oplus \mathcal{O}_{C_0}$.

* We restrict to those weak-coupling limits in the sense of classical geometry that keep giving a weak gauge coupling even after quantum corrections.



Unique, Tensionless, Charged, Heterotic String

- **What's New in 4d?**

- Weak coupling can arise from two classes of geometric limits:

B_2 (6d)	B_3 (4d)
$J = tJ_0 + \dots, t \rightarrow \infty$	$J = tJ_0 + \dots, t \rightarrow \infty$
$J_0^2 = 0$	$J_0^3 = 0$ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → $J_0^2 \neq 0$ J-class A → $J_0^2 = 0$ J-class B

[S.-J.L., Lerche, Weigand '19]

- Both classes lead to the same geometric result as stated above

[Klaewer, S.-J.L., Weigand, Wiesner: to appear]

5/5. Super-Extremal Tower

Confirmation of QGCs

6d F-theory [S.-J.L., Lerche, Weigand '18]

- **No Global Symmetries**

- The weak-coupling limit must lie at infinite distance in moduli space
- Indeed: the limit $t \rightarrow \infty$ is located at an infinite distance $d \rightarrow \log(2t)$

- **Distance Conjecture**

- A tower of states must become light (w/ mass supp. exponentially by d)
- Indeed: the shrinking curve, once wrapped by D3, leads to *tensionless heterotic string*
- Specifically:

The tension is given as $T \propto \text{vol}(C_0) \simeq \frac{1}{t} \simeq 2e^{-d}$

The mass scale of the tower is determined by the tension $M^2 \propto T \propto e^{-d}$

Calculation of the Elliptic Genus

6d Example: dP1 [S.-J.L., Lerche, Weigand '18]

- **A Model over** $B_2 = dP_1$

- Topology of the model gives the U(1) elliptic index, $m = \frac{1}{2}C_0 \cdot b = 2$
- Mirror symmetry computation gives the genus-0 prepotential

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{F}_{C_0}^{(0)}(\tau, z) &\equiv \sum N_{C_0}^{(0)}(n, r) q^n \xi^r \\
 &= -2 + (216 + 128\xi^{\pm 1} + 4\xi^{\pm 2}) q \\
 &\quad + (121964 + 70528\xi^{\pm 1} + 9808\xi^{\pm 2} + 128\xi^{\pm 3} - 2\xi^{\pm 4}) q^2 \\
 &\quad + \mathcal{O}(q^3).
 \end{aligned}$$

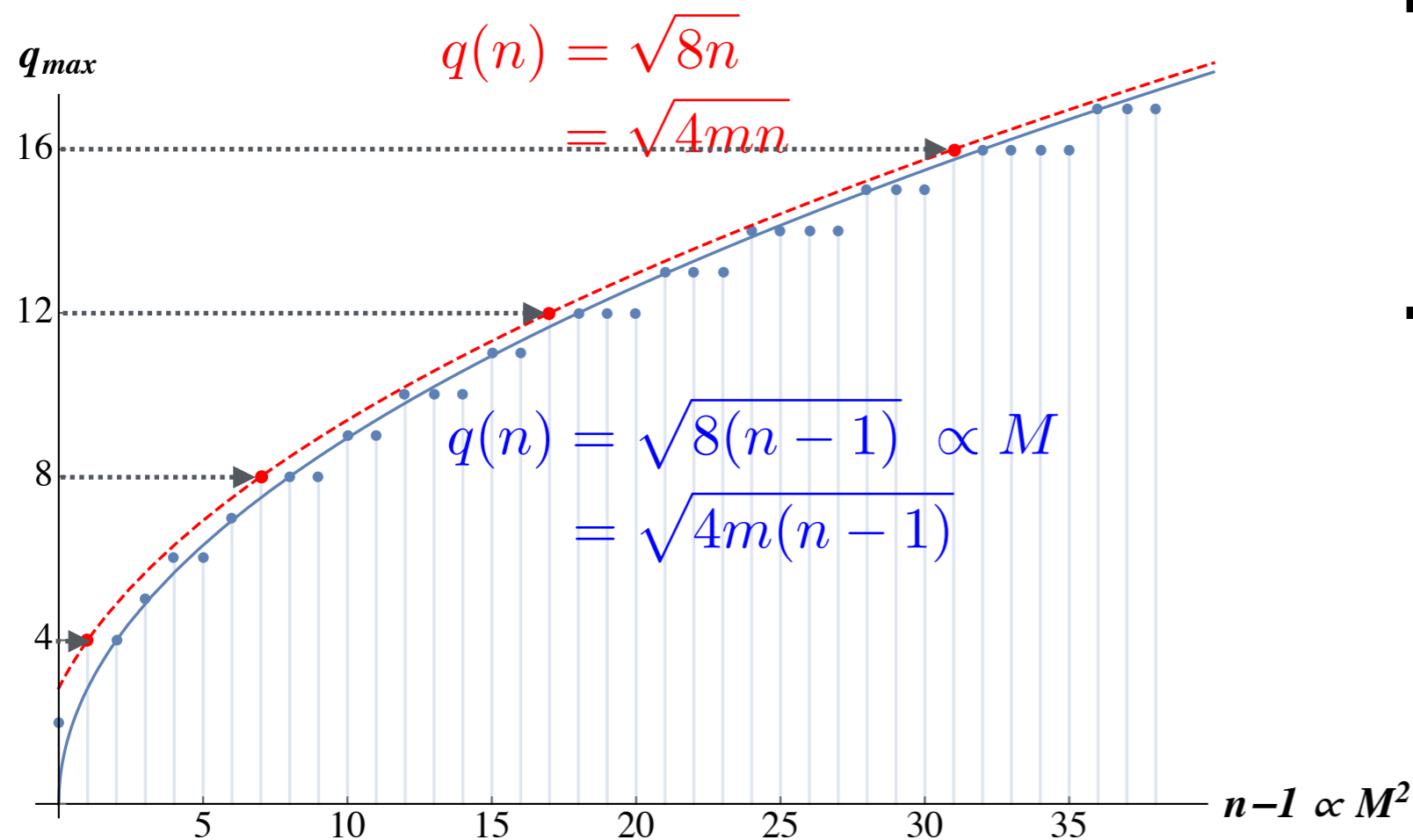
with $\xi^{\pm n} := \xi^n + \xi^{-n}$

- Modular property fixes its analytic expression as

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{F}_{C_0}^{(0)}(\tau, z) &= -q Z_{\mathcal{K}}(\tau, z) \\
 &= \frac{q}{\eta^{24}} \left(\frac{1}{54} E_4^3 \varphi_{-2,1} \varphi_{0,1} + \frac{1}{108} E_6^2 \varphi_{-2,1} \varphi_{0,1} - \frac{1}{72} E_4^2 E_6 \varphi_{-2,1}^2 - \frac{1}{72} E_4 E_6 \varphi_{0,1}^2 \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

Calculation of the Elliptic Genus

6d Example: dP1 [S.-J.L., Lerche, Weigand '18]



- For $q_k = 4k = 2mk$ states exist on the red curve w/ $n_k = 2k^2 = mk^2$
- The *theta expansion*: guarantees that every charge on this (sub-) lattice has states on the red curve, and in particular, strictly above the blue curve

$$\phi(\tau, z) = \sum_{l \in \mathbb{Z}/2m\mathbb{Z}} h_l(\tau) \vartheta_{m,l}(\tau, z)$$

$$\vartheta_{m,l}(\tau, z) := \sum_{r \equiv l \pmod{2m}} q^{\frac{r^2}{4m}} \xi^r$$

Confirmation of QGCs, Continued

6d F-theory [S.-J.L., Lerche, Weigand '18]

- **Completeness Hypothesis**

- The entire charge lattice is populated by physical states
- In fact, open string sector alone would not satisfy this

- **Weak Gravity Conjectures (Sublattice, Scalar version)**

- Masses of the perturbative heterotic string excitations: $M_n^2 = 8\pi T(n - 1)$
- Consider the sublattice states with $q_k = 2mk$ and $n_k = mk^2$

Carefully keeping the numerical factors, first get

sub-lattice index:
 $2m = C_0 \cdot b$

$$M_{\text{Pl}}^4 = 4\pi \text{vol}(B_2); \quad \frac{1}{g^2} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \text{vol}(b); \quad T = 2\pi \text{vol}(C_0),$$

and then, observe $\text{vol}(C_0) \text{vol}(b) \rightarrow 2m \text{vol}(B_2)$ in the weak-coupling limit; this implies that

$$g^2 q_k^2 = \frac{M_{n_k}^2}{M_{\text{Pl}}^4} + 4mg^2 > \frac{M_{n_k}^2}{M_{\text{Pl}}^4} = \mu \frac{M_{n_k}^2}{M_{\text{Pl}}^4} \quad \text{with } \mu = 1$$

Confirmation of QGCs, Continued

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Weak Gravity Conjectures in 4 Dimensions

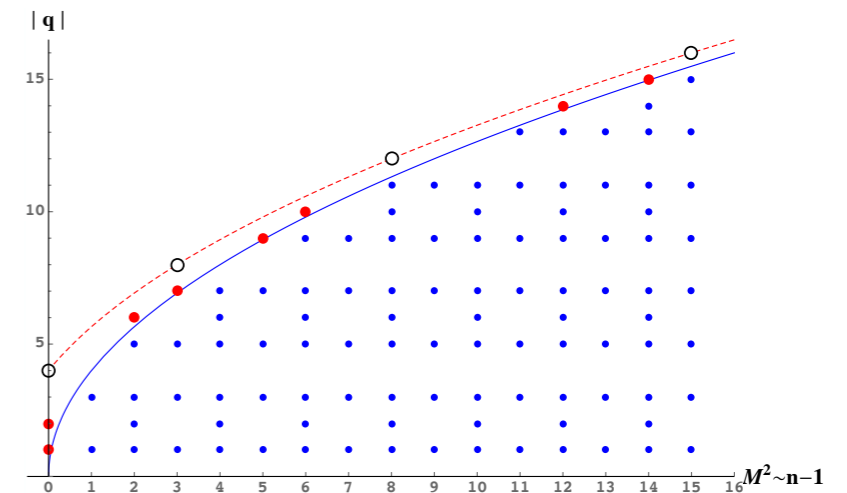
Special vs. General Fluxes

[S.-J.L., Lerche, Weigand '19]

[Klaewer, S.-J.L., Weigand, Wiesner: to appear]

- **Special (quasi-modular) Fluxes**

- The 4d heterotic elliptic genus is modular/Jacobi
 - *theta expansion* of Jacobi forms (wt. **-1**)
 - a (shifted) sublattice of super-extremal particles!



- **General Fluxes**

- The elliptic genus of 4d heterotic string is generically **not** modular/Jacobi
- The deviation is controllable, nevertheless [S.-J.L., Lerche, Lockhart, Weigand '20]

$$\mathcal{Z}_{C_0;G}(q, \xi) = Z_{-1,m}(q, \xi) + \xi \partial_\xi Z_{-2,m}(q, \xi)$$

- In the derivative part:
 - super-extremal terms in $Z_{-2,m}$ guaranteed by the modular/Jacobi property
 - state counting in each (n, r) -sector multiplied by r due to the derivative
 - existence of charged super-extremal sublattice guaranteed!

Weak Gravity Conjectures in 4 Dimensions

New Features in 4 Dimensions [Klaewer, S.-J.L., Weigand, Wiesner: to appear]

- What's New in 4d?

(a) Quantum corrections do change the physics, but the weak gravity still holds:

— $\text{vol}(C_0) \text{vol}(b) \rightarrow 2m \text{vol}(B_3)$ before/after (leading) corrections [Grimm, Savelli, Weissenbacher '13]
[Weissenbacher '20]

(b) The U(1)s are generically Stueckelberg massive:

— weak gravity still works for Stueckelberg U(1)s (cf.) [Reece '18]

— the mass is effectively zero for special (quasi-modular) fluxes [S.-J.L., Lerche, Weigand '19]

(c) U(1)s can be obtained also by breaking non-abelian algebra via flux

— a tower of states that are “super-extremal w.r.t Cartan U(1)s” guaranteed by the modular/Jacobi property (of a *Weyl-invariant* Jacobi form)

— weak gravity thus holds after the flux breaking

Conclusions

Summary

We have studied **elliptic genera of N=(0,2) strings in 4 dimensions**

- Solitonic strings in F-theory compactifications on a general elliptic 4-fold
- Elliptic genera obtained via GW invariants
- Behavior of elliptic genera under modular/elliptic transformations clarified:

$$\mathcal{Z}_{C_b;G}(q, \xi) = Z_{-1,m}(q, \xi) + \xi \partial_\xi Z_{-2,m}(q, \xi)$$

- manifestation of the quasi-Jacobi nature
- connection b/w elliptic 4- and 3-fold invariants
- connection b/w (-1)- and (-2)-flux invariants
- Explicit examples worked out via mirror symmetry for “GLSM 4-folds”
- Weak gravity conjectures (tower/sublattice ver.) verified
 - for general 4d N=1 EFTs of F-theory with fluxes
 - immediate consequence of the **modular/elliptic behavior** of the heterotic elliptic genus

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Thank You!