

A new look at integrable σ -models and their deformations

Dmitri Bykov

Max-Planck-Institut für Physik (München)

Steklov Mathematical Institute (Moscow)

GLSM conference, 21 August 2020

Based on several papers of the speaker,
including arXiv:2005.01812 (with D. Lüst), arXiv:2006.14124 and an upcoming one

PLAN

- Flag manifold σ -models from spin chains -
 - Gauged linear σ -models \rightarrow gauged chiral bosonic Gross-Neveu systems -
 - Ricci flow: the explicit universal solution -
 - Chiral anomalies, inclusion of fermions, SUSY -
-

$$\mathcal{F}_{n_1, \dots, n_S} = \frac{SU(N)}{S(U(n_1) \times \dots \times U(n_S))}, \quad \sum_{i=1}^S n_i = N$$

Complex structure \leftrightarrow ordering of n_1, \dots, n_S .

Complex definition: $\mathcal{F} = GL(N, \mathbb{C})/P$

P = parabolic subgroup stabilizing the flag

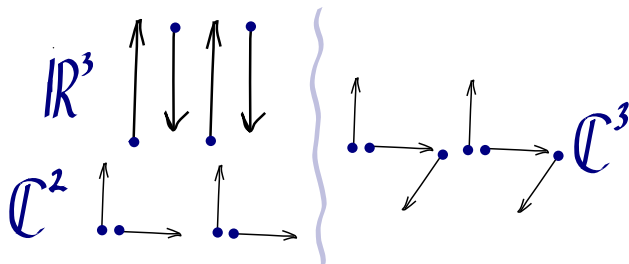
$$0 \in L_1 \subset \dots \subset L_S = \mathbb{C}^N, \quad \dim_{\mathbb{C}} L_k := d_k = \sum_{i=1}^k n_i.$$

(Can be generalized to other groups)

Flag manifolds.

They arise as effective continuum theories of spin chains with $SU(N)$ -symmetry.
($SU(2)$ -case: [Haldane '83], [Affleck '85])

The idea is that the flag manifold is the space of Néel vacua of the classical chain:



- Geometric theory: [DB '11-'12]
- Analysis of spin chains: [Affleck et.al. '17 ($SU(3)$), '19, '20 ($SU(N)$)]
- Discrete 't Hooft anomalies [Tanizaki & Sulejmanpasic '18, Seiberg et.al. '18] predict gapless spectrum \leftrightarrow match with rigorous spin chain results [Lieb, Schultz, Mattis '61, Affleck, Lieb '86]

The σ -model in conventional terms.

In this talk I will discuss mostly the flag σ -models that are (conjecturally) integrable. Symmetric space examples date back to

[Pohlmeyer '76, Zakharov-Mikhailov '78, Eichenherr-Forger '79]

In general, take the flag manifold $\frac{G}{H}$, define $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{h} \oplus \mathfrak{m}$, $J = -g^{-1}dg = J_{\mathfrak{h}} + J_{\mathfrak{m}}$

Metric G : the 'Killing metric' $ds^2 = \text{Tr}(J_{\mathfrak{m}}J_{\mathfrak{m}})$

Complex structure J

B -field: fundamental Hermitian form of the metric $B = G \circ J$

$$\text{Action: } S[G, J] := \int_{\Sigma} d^2z G_{m\bar{n}} \partial U^m \bar{\partial} U^{\bar{n}} \quad [\text{DB, 2014}]$$

Note: metric G is only Kähler iff $\frac{G}{H}$ is symmetric (= Grassmannian)

Geodesics of G are homogeneous [Alekseevsky & Arvanitoyeorgos '07].

The gauged linear sigma-model (GLSM).

Kähler case: GLSM \leftrightarrow Kähler quotients.

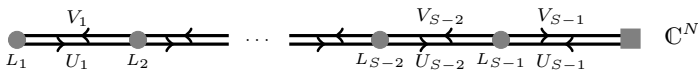
Grassmannian: $\text{Gr}(m, N) = \text{Hom}(\mathbb{C}^m, \mathbb{C}^N) // U(m)$. Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L} = \text{Tr}((\overline{D}U)^\dagger (\overline{D}U)), \quad \overline{D}U := \overline{\partial}U - iU\overline{A}, \quad U^\dagger U = \mathbf{1}_m.$$

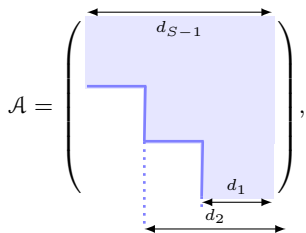
[Cremmer, Scherk '78, D'Adda, Lüscher, di Vecchia '78].

Flag manifold with Kähler metric: GLSM \leftrightarrow Nakajima (quiver) varieties

[Nakajima '94, Nitta '03, Donagi & Sharpe '08].



Flag manifold with ‘Killing metric’ (not Kähler for $S > 2$): a ‘gauge field’ [DB '17]



$\overline{A} = (A)^\dagger$, A ‘reduced’ gauge field!
I will explain the meaning of this later on in the talk.

Same models may be obtained by the approach of [Costello-Yamazaki '2019] from a coupling of two $\beta\gamma$ -systems. Together with the GLSM approach this leads to the following alternative definition [DB '20]

$$\mathcal{L} = \overline{\Psi}_a \not{D} \Psi_a + (r_s)_{ab}^{cd} \left(\overline{\Psi}_a \frac{1 + \gamma_5}{2} \Psi_c \right) \left(\overline{\Psi}_d \frac{1 - \gamma_5}{2} \Psi_b \right),$$

where

$$\Psi_a = \begin{pmatrix} U_a \\ \overline{V}_a \end{pmatrix}, \quad a = 1, \dots, N \quad \text{'Dirac boson'}$$

r_s is the classical r -matrix of [Belavin, Drinfeld '80]:

$$r_s = \frac{s}{1-s} \pi_+ + \frac{1}{1-s} \pi_- + \frac{1}{2} \frac{1+s}{1-s} \pi_0 \quad (\text{solution of CYBE})$$

σ -model = chiral gauged Gross-Neveu model (in bosonic incarnation)!

(Fermionic version: [Gross-Neveu '74, Witten '78])

Chiral symmetry ($\lambda \in \mathbb{C}^\times$) [Zumino, 1977; Mehta 1990] $U \rightarrow \lambda U$, $V \rightarrow \lambda^{-1}V$ ensures that the interaction is quadratic in U and in V , so that we can integrate out V .

Massless Thirring model [Thirring '58], cf. [Swieca '77] for a review

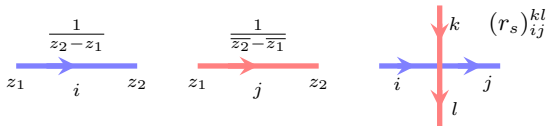
$N = 1$, ungauged: $\mathcal{A} = 0$, undeformed: $(r_s)_{ab}^{cd} = \delta_a^c \delta_b^d$

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\Psi} \not{\partial} \Psi + \frac{1}{2} (\bar{\Psi} \gamma_\mu \Psi)^2 = V \bar{\partial} U - \bar{V} \partial \bar{U} + |U|^2 |V|^2$$

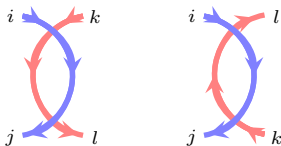
Integrate out V : $\mathcal{L} = \frac{\bar{\partial} U \partial \bar{U}}{U \bar{U}} \rightarrow$ cylinder \mathbb{C}^\times with multiplicative coordinate U

Vanishing β -function: bosonic Thirring vs. free boson (with a linear dilaton)

Feynman rules:



Diagrams contributing to the β -function at one loop:



β -function:

$$\beta_{ij}^{kl} = \sum_{p,q=1}^N \left((r_s)_{ip}^{kq} (r_s)_{pj}^{ql} - (r_s)_{ip}^{ql} (r_s)_{pj}^{kq} \right)$$

The Ricci flow equation $\dot{r}_{ij}^{kl} = \beta_{ij}^{kl}$ has a remarkably simple solution $s = e^{N\tau}$ (was conjectured in [Costello-Yamazaki 2019]).

Alternatively, return to the σ -model and solve the geometric Ricci flow equations

$$\begin{aligned} -\dot{g}_{ij} &= R_{ij} + \frac{1}{4} H_{imn} H_{jm'n'} g^{mm'} g^{nn'} + 2 \nabla_i \nabla_j \Phi, \\ -\dot{B}_{ij} &= -\frac{1}{2} \nabla^k H_{kij} + \nabla^k \Phi H_{kij}, \\ -\dot{\Phi} &= \text{const.} - \frac{1}{2} \nabla^k \nabla_k \Phi + \nabla^k \Phi \nabla_k \Phi + \frac{1}{24} H_{kmn} H^{kmn} \end{aligned}$$

\mathbb{CP}^1 : the ‘sausage’ solution $s = e^{2\tau}$ ($N = 2$) [Fateev, Onofri, Zamolodchikov, '1994]

$$ds^2 = \frac{(s^{-1}-s)|dW|^2}{(s+|W|^2)(s^{-1}+|W|^2)} \quad \text{Length} \sim |\log s| \quad 0 < s < 1$$

\mathbb{CP}^{N-1} : Ricci flow interpolates between a cylinder $(\mathbb{C}^\times)^{N-1}$ in the UV (asymptotic freedom) and a ‘round’ projective space of vanishing radius in the IR.

Remember $U \in \mathbb{C}^N$, so to pass to \mathbb{CP}^{N-1} we need to gauge the chiral symmetry. However the symmetry is typically anomalous: recall Schwinger's effective action

$$\mathcal{S}_{\text{eff.}} = \frac{\xi}{2} \int dz d\bar{z} F_{z\bar{z}} \frac{1}{\Delta} F_{z\bar{z}}, \quad F_{z\bar{z}} = i(\partial\bar{\mathcal{A}} - \bar{\partial}\mathcal{A}) \quad [\text{Schwinger '1962}]$$

Not invariant under the complexified gauge transformations
 $\mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A} + \partial\alpha, \bar{\mathcal{A}} \rightarrow \bar{\mathcal{A}} + \bar{\partial}\bar{\alpha}.$

To cancel the anomaly one can add fermions minimally:

$$\mathcal{L} = \bar{\Psi}_a \not{D} \Psi_a + (r_s)_{ab}^{cd} \left(\bar{\Psi}_a \frac{1 + \gamma_5}{2} \Psi_c \right) \left(\bar{\Psi}_d \frac{1 - \gamma_5}{2} \Psi_b \right) + \bar{\Theta}_a \not{D} \Theta_a,$$

$$\Psi, \Theta \in \text{Hom}(\mathbb{C}, \mathbb{C}^2 \otimes \mathbb{C}^N).$$

Incidentally these are the same fermions that cancel the anomaly in Lüscher's nonlocal charge [Abdalla et.al., 1981-84]!

Conjecture: all such flag manifold models with fermions are quantum integrable

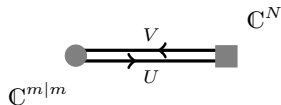
Super phase space Φ = complex symplectic (quiver) super-manifold
 Matter fields U, V in reps. $W \oplus W^\vee$ of a complex gauge group G_{gauge}
 (Global) action of a complex group G_{global}
 Complex moment map μ for $G_{\text{global}} \curvearrowright \Phi$

$$\mathcal{L} = \left(V \cdot \overline{\mathcal{D}}U + \overline{U} \cdot \mathcal{D}V \right) + \kappa \text{Tr}(\mu \overline{\mu})$$

Complex symplectic quotient instead of Kähler quotient!

Anomaly cancellation conditions: $\text{Str}_W(T_a) = 0$, $\text{Str}_W(T_a T_b) = 0$ ($T_a \in \mathfrak{g}_{\text{gauge}}$)

Example. SUSY Grassmannian model $\text{Gr}(m, N)$, $G_{\text{global}} = \mathfrak{sl}_N(\mathbb{C})$



$$G_{\text{gauge}} = \left\{ g = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 0 \\ \chi & \lambda \end{pmatrix} \in SL(m|m), \lambda \in GL(m, \mathbb{C}) \right\}$$

$U \in \text{Hom}(\mathbb{C}^{m|m}, \mathbb{C}^N)$ and $V \in \text{Hom}(\mathbb{C}^N, \mathbb{C}^{m|m})$.

- Integrable sigma-models beyond symmetric target spaces [DB '14+, Costello-Yamazaki 2019]
- GLSM formulation beyond Kähler target spaces [DB '17]
- σ -models = gauged chiral Gross-Neveu models [DB '20]
- The one-loop β -function is universal for all of these models (one-loop exact?)
- (Complicated) Ricci flow eqs. have a simple (ancient) solution, interpolating between the homogeneous metric and a cylinder
- Anomalies \rightarrow Super phase spaces with anomaly cancellation conditions [‘20, to appear]
- Interactions are polynomial \rightarrow relation to Ashtekar variables of GR (direct derivation for $\frac{SL(2,\mathbb{R})}{SO(2)}$ [Brodbeck & Zagermann ‘00])
- Poisson brackets of Lax operators are ultralocal [Delduc et.al. '19]
- Should be possible to construct the full quantum theory: S/R-matrix, spectrum (thermodynamic Bethe ansatz), analyze resurgence, etc.
Possibly using the ODE/IQFT approach [Bazhanov, Lukyanov, Zamolodchikov 98+, Bazhanov, Kotousov, Lukyanov '17]
- ...

Let us thank Eric and his co-organizers
Cyril, Johanna and Ilarion
for setting up this nice conference,
which ran very smoothly!

We appreciate the effort
you have invested in it!

Instead of working in a standard gauge like $\bar{U}U = 1$, we can choose

$$U_N = 1 \quad (\text{inhomogeneous gauge})$$

Varying the action w.r.t. \bar{A} , we get $UV = 0$, i.e. $V_N = -\sum_{j=1}^{N-1} U_j V_j$.

Substituting in the Lagrangian, we get

$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{k=1}^{N-1} (V_k \bar{\partial} U_k - \bar{V}_k \partial \bar{U}_k + \beta |V_k|^2) +$$

$$+ \underbrace{\sum_{l,m=1}^{N-1} a_{lm} |U_l|^2 |V_m|^2 + \gamma \left| \sum_{p=1}^{N-1} U_p V_p \right|^2}_{\text{quartic vertices}} + \underbrace{\alpha \left(\sum_{k=1}^{N-1} |U_k|^2 \right) \left| \sum_{p=1}^{N-1} U_p V_p \right|^2}_{\text{sextic vertices}}$$

Instead of a σ -model we obtained a theory with polynomial interactions! Parallel with Ashtekar variables:

- Direct derivation for $\frac{SL(2, \mathbb{R})}{SO(2)}$ [Brodbeck & Zagermann '00]
- Interactions are polynomial
- Degenerations are allowed (compare with nilpotent orbits)

$$-\delta_i^j \beta \log |z_1 - z_2|^2,$$

$$-\alpha \delta_{pp'} \delta_{qq'} \delta_{rr'}$$

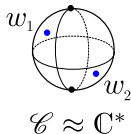
A semi-holomorphic 4D Chern-Simons theory on $\Sigma \times \mathcal{C}$, where $\Sigma =$ ‘topological plane’ $(z, \bar{z}) \rightarrow$ worldsheet to-be

$\mathcal{C} =$ complex curve (w, \bar{w}) with a holomorphic differential $\omega = dw \neq 0$.

$K_{\mathcal{C}} = 0$ implies $\mathcal{C} \simeq \mathbb{C}, \mathbb{C}^*, E_{\tau}$. The action:

$$S_{\text{CS}} = \frac{1}{\hbar} \int_{\Sigma \times \mathcal{C}} \omega \wedge \text{Tr} \left(A \wedge (dA + \frac{2}{3} A \wedge A) \right),$$

where $A = A_z dz + A_{\bar{z}} d\bar{z} + A_{\bar{w}} d\bar{w}$. One couples this theory to two $\beta\gamma$ systems, with target space $T^*\mathcal{M}$, where \mathcal{M} is a complex homogeneous space:



$$S_{def} = \int_{\Sigma} d^2 z (p_i D_{\bar{z}}^{(w_1)} q^i + \bar{p}_i D_z^{(w_2)} \bar{q}^i),$$

where
$$D_{\bar{z}}^{(w_1)} q^i = \partial_{\bar{z}} q^i - \sum_a (A_{\bar{z}}^{(w_1)})_a v_a^i.$$

'Light-cone' gauge $A_{\bar{w}} = 0$, solve for $A_z, A_{\bar{z}}$. In this gauge the equations are

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_{\bar{z}} A_z - \partial_z A_{\bar{z}} + [A_z, A_{\bar{z}}] &= 0, \\ \partial_{\bar{w}} A_z &= \delta^{(2)}(w - w_1) \sum_a p_i v_a^i \tau_a \\ \partial_{\bar{w}} A_{\bar{z}} &= \delta^{(2)}(w - w_2) \sum_a \bar{p}_i v_a^{\bar{i}} \tau_a. \end{aligned}$$

Family $A_z(w), A_{\bar{z}}(w)$ of flat connections, depending meromorphically on w !

Key observation: Green's function $\bar{\partial}_{\bar{w}}^{-1} =$ classical r -matrix [Belavin, Drinfeld '80]

Rational case: $r(w) = \frac{\sum \tau_a \otimes \tau_a}{w} \in \mathfrak{g} \otimes \mathfrak{g}$, i.e. $r(w) = \frac{1}{w} \in \text{End}(\mathfrak{g})$.

Trigonometric case: let $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}_+ \oplus \mathfrak{g}_-$ (complex structure on G , Manin triple, etc.), then

$r_{\text{comp.}}(u) = \frac{\sum \tau_a^+ \otimes \tau_a^-}{1-u} - \frac{\sum \tau_a^- \otimes \tau_a^+}{1-u^{-1}} \in \mathfrak{g} \otimes \mathfrak{g}$, i.e. $r_{\text{comp.}}(z) = \frac{\Pi_+}{1-u} - \frac{\Pi_-}{1-u^{-1}} \in \text{End}(\mathfrak{g})$.

Upon integrating out $A_z, A_{\bar{z}}$, we get (rational case)

$$\begin{aligned}
 S &= \int d^2 z \left(p_i \partial_{\bar{z}} q^i + \bar{p}_i \partial_z \bar{q}^i + \mathbf{r}_{w_1 - w_2} \left(p_i v_a^i \tau_a, \bar{p}_i \bar{v}_a^i \tau_a \right) \right) = \\
 &= \int d^2 z \left(p_i \partial_{\bar{z}} q^i + \bar{p}_i \partial_z \bar{q}^i + \frac{1}{w_1 - w_2} \sum |p_i v_a^i|^2 \right) = \\
 &= \text{integrate out } p, \bar{p} \text{ (the fiber of } T^* \mathcal{M}) \sim \\
 &\sim \int d^2 z \left(G_{i\bar{j}} \partial_{\bar{z}} q^i \partial_z \bar{q}^{\bar{j}} \right) \quad \text{with} \quad G_{i\bar{j}} = \left(\sum_a v_a^i v_a^{\bar{j}} \right)^{-1}
 \end{aligned}$$

Invertibility \leftrightarrow Homogeneous space

Rational case: the flag manifold σ -model described earlier. [DB, 2019]

But this also provides deformations of those models, trigonometric and elliptic. We pass over to this topic, starting with deformations of the $\mathbb{C}P^{n-1}$ model.

The conjecture of integrability of the models is based on the following evidence:

- The zero-curvature representation

$$A_u = \frac{1+u}{2} K_z dz + \frac{1+u^{-1}}{2} K_{\bar{z}} d\bar{z}, \quad u \in \mathbb{C}^*,$$

where $K =$ Noether current (*flat*).

- Involutivity of the integrals of motion [Delduc et. al. '19]
- Explicit classical solutions $\left(\frac{U(3)}{U(1)^3}\right)$ [DB '16], generalizing [Din, Zakrzewski '80]
- Analogy with the case of symmetric spaces (review: [Zarembo '17])

Symmetric spaces of $SU(N)$: Grassmannians $G(m, N) := \frac{SU(N)}{S(U(m) \times U(N-m))}$

Consider the Ricci flow for the metric

$$-g_{ij} = R_{ij} + \frac{1}{4} H_{imn} H_{jm'n'} g^{mm'} g^{nn'} + \nabla_i \mathcal{D}_j \Phi + \nabla_j \mathcal{D}_i \Phi, \quad \mathcal{D}\Phi = d\Phi - \mathcal{E}.$$

The structure of the blow-up (strong coupling) is as follows: $g_{ij} \sim (1-s)(g_{\text{hom.}})_{ij}$.

For the homogeneous metric $\mathcal{D}_i \Phi = 0$. Since $s = e^{N\tau}$, in the limit $-g_{ij} \rightarrow N(g_{\text{hom.}})_{ij}$
Homogeneous (Killing) metric $g_{\text{hom.}}$ satisfies a generalized Einstein condition

$$R_{ij} + \frac{1}{4} H_{imn} H_{jm'n'} g_{\text{hom.}}^{mm'} g_{\text{hom.}}^{nn'} = N(g_{\text{hom.}})_{ij}.$$

For Grassmannians $H = 0$, i.e. $R_{ij} = N(g_{\text{hom.}})_{ij}$.

N = first Chern number of the tangent bundle

$c_1(G(m, N)) = N[\mathcal{C}]$ (\mathcal{C} = generator) – independent of m !

β -function for a symmetric space = dual Coxeter number (independent of H in $\frac{G}{H}$).

We observe this for non-symmetric spaces – can be proven directly!

Let $g \in SU(N)$, $g^{-1}dg = i(\Phi dz + \bar{\Phi} d\bar{z})$.

$\bar{\partial}\Phi + i[\bar{\Phi}, \Phi] = 0$. Flatness of Noether current, Principal Chiral Model

Impose the condition $\Phi^S = 0$ (closure of nilpotent orbit in \mathfrak{gl}_N)

Assume

$$\Phi^S = 0, \quad \text{and} \quad \Phi^{S-1} \neq 0.$$

The map $\Phi(z, \bar{z})$ satisfying the E.O.M. defines a flag

$$0 \subset \text{Ker}(\Phi) \subset \text{Ker}(\Phi^2) \subset \dots \subset \text{Ker}(\Phi^S) \simeq \mathbb{C}^N$$

This is a point in

$$\mathcal{F} := \frac{U(N)}{U(\kappa_1) \times \dots \times U(\kappa_S)}, \quad \text{where}$$

$$\kappa_j = \dim \text{Ker}(\Phi^j) / \text{Ker}(\Phi^{j-1}) = \text{number of Jordan blocks of size at least } j.$$

Claim: the map $\Sigma \rightarrow \mathcal{F}$ is a solution of a flag manifold sigma-model

This is a map to a single orbit: type does not change due to e.o.m. [DB, 2019]

I will now describe the model.

Simplest deformation: 2D target space with a $U(1)$ -isometry [DB-Lüst, 2020]

$$ds^2 = \sum_{i,j=1}^2 G_{ij} dX^i dX^j = \frac{1}{4g(\mu)} d\mu^2 + g(\mu) d\phi^2.$$

For what $g(\mu)$ is the model integrable?

Mechanical reduction always integrable (2 integrals of motion).

Generalized Pohlmeyer map: set $G_{ij} \partial X^i \bar{\partial} X^j = \cosh \chi$.

Sinh-Gordon equation replaced by $\bar{\partial} \partial \chi - 2g''(\mu) \sinh \chi = 0$.

Add the equation for μ : $\partial \bar{\partial} \mu - 2g'(\mu) \cosh \chi = 0$.

The two eqs. follow from a single Lagrangian if $g(\mu) = b + a \cosh \mu$:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L} &= \frac{1}{2} \partial \mu \bar{\partial} \mu + \frac{1}{2} \partial \chi \bar{\partial} \chi + 2a \cosh \mu \cosh \chi = \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{2} \partial \tilde{\mu} \bar{\partial} \tilde{\mu} + a \cosh(\sqrt{2} \tilde{\mu}) \right) + \left(\frac{1}{2} \partial \tilde{\chi} \bar{\partial} \tilde{\chi} + a \cosh(\sqrt{2} \tilde{\chi}) \right) \end{aligned}$$

The (Kähler) metric of the ‘sausage’ [Fateev, Onofri, Zamolodchikov, 1994]

$$ds^2 = \left(\frac{1}{s} - s \right) \frac{|dW|^2}{(s + |W|^2)(\frac{1}{s} + |W|^2)}, \quad 0 < s < 1.$$

$\mathbb{C}P^{N-1}$ also has a generalized Kähler deformation [Demulder et.al. 2020], constructed along the lines of [Delduc, Magro, Vicedo 2013]. The B -field has the form $B = \sum_i b_i \wedge d\phi_i$, so T -dualizing all angles we get rid of it.

T -dual geometry is Kähler with potential [DB-Lüst, 2020]

$$\mathcal{K} = \sum_{j=1}^N (Z_j \bar{Z}_{j-1} - \bar{Z}_j Z_{j-1}) + 2 \sum_{j=1}^N P(t_j - t_{j-1} - 2\tau), \quad t_j = Z_j + \bar{Z}_j,$$

where $P(t) = \text{Li}_2(e^{-t}) + \frac{t^2}{4}$.

\mathcal{K} not invariant under $Z_i \rightarrow Z_i + \delta\alpha_i$. T -duality does not preserve the Kähler property (otherwise T : chiral \leftrightarrow twisted chiral [Rocek, Verlinde 1991]).

The metric satisfies the (simple) Ricci flow equation $-\frac{dg_{i\bar{j}}}{d\tau} = 4 R_{i\bar{j}}$ with $s = e^{N\tau}$.