

Geometric Engineering of SCFTs from Canonical Threefold Singularities

Yi-Nan Wang

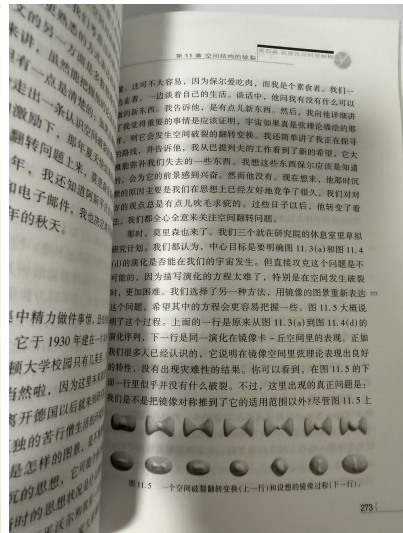
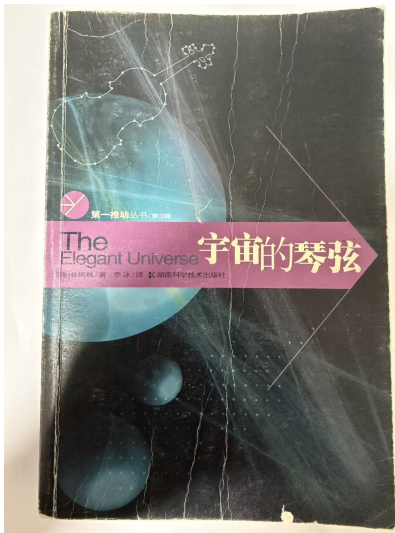
Peking University

Calabi-Yau at 50

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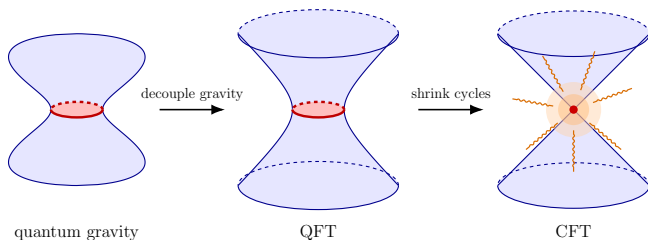
Motivations

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- String/M-theory on compact CY space $\rightarrow$ Quantum Gravity theory
- This talk: zoom into singularities in the CY space, what are the local degrees of freedom at a canonical singularity X ?



- Desingularization of singularities (resolution/deformation) $\leftrightarrow$ Deformation of the conformal field theory
- D-brane/membrane objects wrapping exceptional cycles on the smooth space $\rightarrow$ Massless, tensionless objects at the singularity/SCFT point

- The geometric engineering of SCFTs is a useful application of string theory!
 - (1) CFTs are fixed points of quantum field theories.
 - (2) CFTs are also useful to describe critical phenomenon in e. g. condensed matter physics.
 - (3) From AdS/CFT correspondence, the classification and study of CFTs helps to classify and understand quantum gravity as well.

- For higher dimensional SCFTs, the full operator spectrum, OPEs ... are not known
- In $d \geq 5$, the definition of the SCFTs comes from string theory!
- 6d (2,0) SCFTs: IIB on $\mathbb{C}^2/\Gamma$
- 6d (1,0) SCFTs: F-theory on local elliptic CY3
- 5d SCFTs: M-theory on 3-fold singularity X ...
- 4d SCFTs: type II superstring constructions are also very useful!
- 4d string phenomenology motivations:
 - (1) String vacua with small cosmological constants often appear near singularity in compact CY3
 - (2) (S)CFT as dark sector, “unparticle physics”

Motivations

- In this talk, X = canonical threefold singularity, consider its crepant resolution $\tilde{X}$ and miniversal deformation $\hat{X}$
(Note that $\tilde{X}$ may have at worst terminal singularities)
- type II superstring/M-theory on $X \rightarrow$ SCFT with eight supercharges
- Such SCFT typically has flat moduli spaces with $V = 0$, e.g. Coulomb branch/Higgs branch, corresponds to the desingularizations of X
 - (1) $\mathcal{T}_X^{5d}$ from M-theory on X : CB from $\tilde{X}$, HB from $\hat{X}$
 - (2) $\mathcal{T}_X^{4d}$ from IIB on X : CB from $\hat{X}$, HB from $\tilde{X}$

5d SCFTs from M-theory - Coulomb branch

Basics of 5d $\mathcal{N} = 1$ gauge theories

- 8 supercharges, supermultiplets:

(1) Vector multiplet with gauge group G : A_μ , λ , real scalar ϕ

(2) Hypermultiplets in rep. R : ψ , two complex scalars $h \oplus h^c$

Basics of 5d $\mathcal{N} = 1$ gauge theories

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- Super Yang-Mills action

$$S = \int d^5x \left[\frac{1}{g_{\text{YM}}^2} \text{Tr}(F^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu}) + i\bar{\psi} \not{D} \psi + \dots \right]$$

- Action is non-renormalizable
- For some 5d $\mathcal{N} = 1$ supersymmetric gauge theories, they can be UV completed to a strongly coupled SCFT when $g_{\text{YM}} \rightarrow \infty$ (Seiberg 96')(Intriligator, Morrison, Seiberg 96').
- Has a non-trivial UV flavor symmetry G_F

Example: rank-1 theories

- Rank-1 Seiberg $E_N(N \leq 8)$ theories ([Seiberg 96'](#))
 - (1) IR gauge theory description $SU(2) + (N - 1)\mathbf{F}$.
 - (2) IR classical flavor symmetry $G_{F,IR} = SO(2N - 2)$ enhanced to $G_F = E_N$.

Example: rank-1 theories

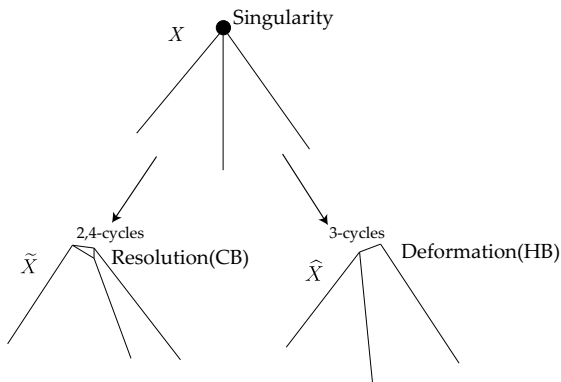
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- For $N = 1$, there are two theories with different discrete θ -angles
 - (1) E_1 : $SU(2)_0$, $G_F = SU(2)$
 - (2) $\tilde{E}_1$: $SU(2)_\pi$, $G_F = U(1)$.
- For $N = 0$, E_0 theory does not have a gauge theory description, $G_F = \emptyset$.

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- For $N = 0$, E_0 theory does not have a gauge theory description, $G_F = \emptyset$.
- Exact 1-1 correspondence with the classification of Fano surfaces: dP_N , $\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1$, $\mathbb{P}^2$. Rational curves on $(g)dP_N$ has exceptional E_N structure!

M-theory interpretation

- Rank-1 Seiberg E_N theory is defined as M-theory on $X = \text{local } dP_N$ singularity!
- (1) **Coulomb branch**: scalars in the vector multiplets have non-zero vev: the crepant resolution $\tilde{X}$
- (2) **Higgs branch**: scalars in the hypermultiplets have non-zero vev: the deformation $\hat{X}$



Coulomb branch

- Effective theory: $U(1)^r$ gauge theory+matter fields
- Dimension of Coulomb Branch r : **rank** of 5d $\mathcal{N} = 1$ SCFT
- Coulomb branch parameter: $\langle \phi^i \rangle$

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- Effective Lagrangian on CB:

$$\mathcal{L} = G_{ij}(F^i \wedge \star F^j + d\phi^i \wedge \star d\phi^j) + \frac{c_{ijl}}{24\pi^2} A^i \wedge F^j \wedge F^l + \dots$$

$$G_{ij} = \frac{\partial^2 \mathcal{F}}{\partial \phi^i \partial \phi^j}, \quad c_{ijl} = \frac{\partial^3 \mathcal{F}}{\partial \phi^i \partial \phi^j \partial \phi^l}$$

- Prepotential $\mathcal{F}$ is 1-loop exact:

$$\mathcal{F} = \frac{1}{2g_{\text{YM}}^2} h_{ij} \phi^i \phi^j + \frac{k}{6} d_{ijl} \phi^i \phi^j \phi^l + \frac{1}{12} \left(\sum_{\alpha \in \Phi_G} |\alpha_i \phi^i|^3 - \sum_{\lambda \in W_R} |\lambda_i \phi^i + m_f|^3 \right).$$

Coulomb branch in M-theory

- M-theory on the (crepant) resolved space $\tilde{X}$, with new compact 4-cycles S_i

$$C_3 = \sum_{i=1}^r A_i \wedge \omega_i \leftarrow \text{Poincaré dual to } S_i \text{ in } \tilde{X}$$

- Rank $r = \#$ compact 4-cycles S_i .
- $\langle \phi^i \rangle \sim$ Kähler parameters of $\tilde{X}$
- M2-brane wrapping compact 2-cycles $C \subset \tilde{X}$: 5d particle BPS states with mass $m \propto \text{Area}(C)$, $U(1)_i$ charge: $C \cdot S_i$.
- (1) $N_{C|\tilde{X}} = \mathcal{O} \oplus \mathcal{O}(-2)$: vector multiplet
- (2) $N_{C|\tilde{X}} = \mathcal{O}(-1) \oplus \mathcal{O}(-1)$: hypermultiplet
- c_{ijl} in the 5d $\mathcal{N} = 1$ prepotential: triple intersection number $S_i \cdot S_j \cdot S_l$
- $\mathbb{P}^1$ -fibration structure of $\tilde{X} \rightarrow$ non-abelian gauge theory in the IR
- Partial classification of 5d SCFTs based on the geometries of smooth S_i s (IMS)(Xie, Yau)(Bhardwaj, Jefferson, Katz, Kim, Tarazi, Vafa, Zafrir...)

Non-isolated singularities

- Resolutions of non-minimal Weierstrass models in 6d F-theory (Apruzzi, Lawrie, Ling, Schafer-Nameki, YNW 19')
- Example: 6d (1,0) rank-1 E-string theory

$$[E_8] - 1$$

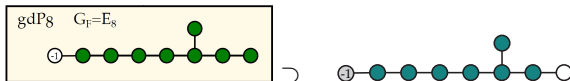
- Start with a non-isolated singularity

$$y^2 = x^3 + u^4x + u^5v.$$

- non-compact elliptic CY3 with base $B = \mathbb{C}^2$
- After the resolution, a single compact 4-cycle S_1 and a number of new non-compact 4-cycles D_α .
- Topology of S_1 depends on the resolution sequence

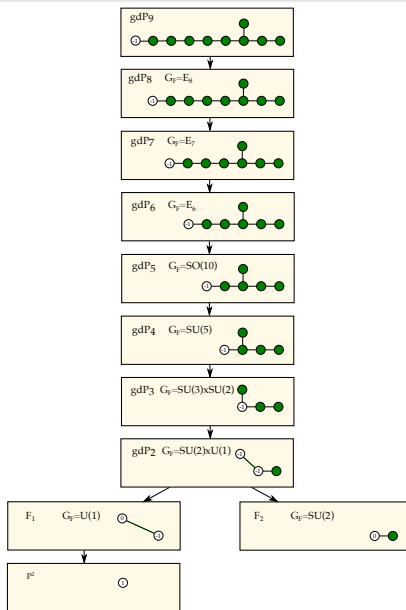
Combined Fiber Diagram

- Using the intersection numbers between non-compact and compact 4-cycles after the resolution, define a **Combined Fiber Diagram (CFD)**
- (1) The non-Abelian UV flavor symmetry $G_{F,nA}$ is given by the Dynkin diagram in green color
- (2) Possible IR gauge theory descriptions are constrained by the subgraph structure of CFD;
- Example: rank-1 Seiberg E_8 theory $\sim SU(2) + 7\mathbf{F}$



- (3) *CFD transition* (mass deformation of IR gauge theory): removing (-1) -vertex, transform the others (corresponds to flops from S_i into D_α)

Combined Fiber Diagram for rank-1 theories

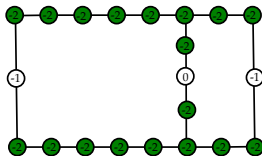


More cases

- S^1 reduction of the minimal (E_8, E_8) Conformal Matter

$$[E_8] - 1 - 2 - \overset{\mathfrak{su}(2)}{2} - \overset{\mathfrak{g}_2}{3} - 1 - \overset{\mathfrak{f}_4}{5} - 1 - \overset{\mathfrak{g}_2}{3} - \overset{\mathfrak{su}(2)}{2} - 2 - 1 - [E_8] .$$

- From the topology of 21 compact surfaces $\rightarrow$ CFD for the KK theory



- Many other cases! ([Apruzzi, Lawrie, Ling, Schafer-Nameki, YNW 19'](#))([Apruzzi, Schafer-Nameki, YNW 19'](#)).

General threefold singularities

- For a general canonical threefold singularity X , after the crepant resolution, $\tilde{X}$ may still have terminal singularities. The exceptional divisors S_i could also be singular

Case (I): $\tilde{X}$ is **smooth**, S_i are all **smooth**;

Case (II): $\tilde{X}$ is **smooth**, some of S_i are **singular**, with at worst log canonical singularities;

Case (III): $\tilde{X}$ is **singular**;

- Classify what happened, for different classes of singularities

(1) Isolated hypersurface singularities (IHS)

- IHS threefold singularities classified by (Yau, Yu 03')
- We build computer algorithm to generate systematic “large resolution” of X , by (weighted) blowing up the toric 4-fold ambient space of X , with weights $(1, 1, 1, 1)$, $(1, 1, 1, 2)$, $(1, 1, 2, 3)$, $(1, 1, 1)$ or $(1, 1)$ (Closset, Schafer-Nameki, YNW 20', 21')(Closset, Giacomelli, Schafer-Nameki, YNW 20')
- Classified Case (I) with smooth $\tilde{X}$ and smooth divisors, up to $r = 10$
- Classified Case (II) with smooth $\tilde{X}$ and singular divisors, up to $r = 4$
- Infinite classes in Case (III), coupled to terminal singularities

(2) Isolated complete intersection singularities (ICIS)

- Classified by (Chen, Xie, Yau, Yau, Zuo 16')
- Similarly build an algorithm to generate the resolved $\tilde{X}$, by (weighted) blowing up the toric 5-fold ambient space of X (Mu, YNW, Zhang 23')
- Classified Case (I) with smooth $\tilde{X}$ and smooth divisors, up to $r = 10$

(3) $\mathbb{C}^3/\Gamma$ orbifold singularities, $\Gamma \subset SU(3)$

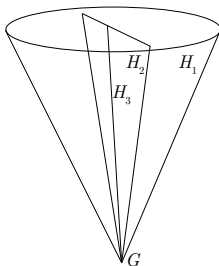
- Useful in the 3d McKay correspondence
- They by default have a smooth $\tilde{X}$, either Case (I) or (II), systematically studied the resolution for the cases with either hypersurface, complete intersection or toric descriptions (Tian, YNW 22')

5d SCFT from M-theory - Higgs branch

Higgs branch

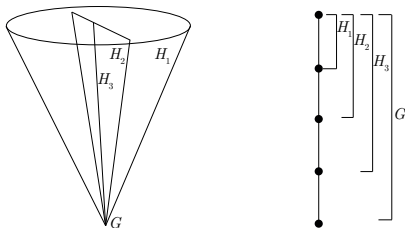
- vev. of the scalars in hypermultiplets $\langle h \rangle \neq 0$: Higgs branch (HB), hyper-Kähler cone (symplectic singularity)
- Quaternionic dimension: d_H
- On a generic point the gauge symmetry G is completely broken, but at special subloci a subgroup $H_i \subset G$ remains:

$$\emptyset \subset H_1 \subset H_2 \cdots \subset G$$



Higgs branch

- Hasse diagram: illustrate the layered structure of HB (Bourget, Cabrera, Grimminger, Hanany, Sperling, Zajac, Zheng 19')



- Each layer: elementary slice:
 - (1) Minimal nilpotent orbit of simple Lie algebra $a_n, b_n, c_n, d_n, e_n, f_4, g_2$;
 $d_H = h^\vee ee - 1$
 - (2) ADE singularity $\mathbb{C}^2/\Gamma$, e. g. Kleinian A_N singularity; $d_H = 1$
- $G_{F,nA}$: read off from the bottom layer

HB from an isolated threefold singularity

- Question: can we directly study the HB of 5d SCFT from geometry?
- Answer: deformation of isolated threefold singularity X , from a IIB mirror perspective!

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- IIB on $X \rightarrow 4d \mathcal{N} = 2$ SCFT $\mathcal{T}_X^{4d}$ was studied by (Shapere, Vafa 96')(Xie, Yau 15', 16')(Wang, Xie, Yau, Yau 16')...
- Define a 3d $\mathcal{N} = 4$ theory $EQ^{(4)} :=$ reduction of $\mathcal{T}_X^{4d}$ on S^1 , flow to IR
- $\mathcal{T}_X^{4d}$ and $EQ^{(4)}$ have CB dimension $\widehat{r}_{4d}$.

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- $\mathcal{T}_X^{4d}$ and $EQ^{(4)}$ have CB dimension $\widehat{r}_{4d}$.
- 5d-4d Correspondence Conjecture (Closset, Schafer-Nameki, YNW 20'): the **magnetic quiver** of the 5d SCFT $MQ^{(5)}$ is obtained from the gauging of $EQ^{(4)}$ by $U(1)^f$
- f is the flavor rank preserved on the HB of $\mathcal{T}_X^{5d}$ and $\mathcal{T}_X^{4d}$

HB from an isolated threefold singularity

- $\text{MQ}^{(5)}$ is another 3d $\mathcal{N} = 4$ quiver gauge theory (Ferlito, Hanany, Mekareeya, Zafrir 18')... , related by the T^2 reduction of $\mathcal{T}_X^{5d}$ by 3d mirror symmetry.
- HB of $\mathcal{T}_{5d} = \text{CB of MQ}^{(5)}$
- Derivation of the Higgs branch Hasse diagram: quiver subtractions from $\text{MQ}^{(5)}$ (Cabrera, Hanany 18')

Isolated hypersurface singularity X

- Isolated hypersurface singularity (IHS) in $\mathbb{C}^4$

$$F(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4) = 0, \quad \partial_{x_i} F = 0.$$

- Quasi-homogeneous: each variable x_i has a weight q_i , such that $F(x)$ has weight 1.
- Example: Seiberg rank-1 E_6 theory:

$$F(x) = x_1^3 + x_2^3 + x_3^3 + x_4^3 = 0.$$

Deformation of X

- Deformation of quasi-homogeneous IHS $F(x) = 0$: $\widehat{X}$:

$$F(x) \rightarrow F(x) + \sum_{l=1}^{\mu} t_l x^{m_l}.$$

x^{m_l} are the monomial generators of the Milnor ring

$$\mathcal{M}(F) = \mathbb{C}[x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4]/(\partial_i F)$$

- Total number of generators μ = the Milnor number of X .

$$\mu = \prod_{i=1}^4 \left(\frac{1}{q_i} - 1 \right).$$

Deformation of X

- In Coulomb branch of $\mathcal{T}_X^{4d}$, the monomials x^{m_l} correspond to operators with scaling dimension

$$\Delta = \frac{1 - q(x^{m_l})}{\sum_i q_i - 1}.$$

(1) # of operators with $\Delta > 1$: $\hat{r}_{4d}$, CB parameters of $\mathcal{T}_X^{4d}$

(2) # of operators with $\Delta = 1$: f

- In the example of

$$F(x) = x_1^3 + x_2^3 + x_3^3 + x_4^3 = 0.$$

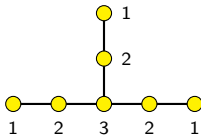
Spectrum:

Δ	1	2	3
#	6	4	1

- Corresponds to the degree of Casimir operator of the gauge group of $\mathcal{T}_X^{4d}$

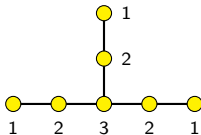
Higgs branch of 5d SCFT from deformation

- From the spectrum: 4d $SU(N)$ quiver description of $\mathcal{T}_X^{4d}$, same as $EQ^{(4)}$:



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- 5d magnetic quiver $MQ^{(5)} \cong EQ^{(4)}/U(1)^6$, $MQ^{(5)}$ is a $U(N)$ quiver with the same shape, mod out a common $U(1)$
- Quiver subtraction Affine E_6 Dynkin diagram $\rightarrow$ Hasse diagram



- The HB of rank-1 Seiberg E_6 theory is the minimal nilpotent orbit of E_6

More general cases

- We also studied many cases with fractional 4d Coulomb branch spectrum (Closset, Giacomelli, Schafer-Nameki, YNW 20')(Closset, Schafer-Nameki, YNW 21')
- Conjectures relating the crepant resolution and deformation of X :
 - (1) Case (I) with smooth $\tilde{X}$ and smooth divisors, the 4d CB spectrum is all integral
 - (2) Case (III) with singular $\tilde{X}$ has a non-integral 4d CB spectrum

4d SCFT from IIB - Higgs branch

Higgs branch of $\mathcal{T}_X^{4d}$

- Crepant resolution $\tilde{X}$ of X , new 2/4-cycles $\rightarrow$ HB of $\mathcal{T}_X^{4d}$ (from IIB on X)
- Quaternionic dimension of HB of $\mathcal{T}_X^{4d}$, $\hat{d}_{H,4d} = \#$ of Kähler parameters of $\tilde{X}$, i.e. $h_{1,1}(\tilde{X})$.
- Related to the rank r_{5d} and flavor rank f of the 5d SCFT from M-theory on the X (Closset, Schafer-Nameki, YNW 20')...

$$\hat{d}_{H,4d} = r_{5d} + f$$

- How to derive the Higgs branch of the 4d $\mathcal{N} = 2$ SCFT from the geometry?

Explored many examples, in our recent paper (YNW, Yan, Yang 26')

- How to relate the CB and HB of the same 4d $\mathcal{N} = 2$ SCFT?

The bridge: vertex operator algebra (VOA)

- The vertex operator algebra (VOA) is an important information for 4d SCFT, corresponding to a 2d non-unitary CFT with $c_{2d} = -12c_{4d}$ (Beem, Lemos, Liendo, Peelaers, Rastelli, van Rees 13')...
- HB of 4d SCFT = Associated Variety of the VOA
- Schur index of 4d SCFT $\leftrightarrow$ Vacuum character $X_V(\tau)$ of the VOA, can be computed from the Schur index of the BPS quiver of $\mathcal{T}_X^{4d}$, which is a CB data!
- a , c and CB spectrum of $\mathcal{T}_X^{4d}$ also contain the information of VOA

$$a - c = -\frac{1}{48}\mathcal{G}(V)$$

- $\mathcal{G}(V)$ is the asymptotic growth of the character of the VOA

$$X_V(\tau) \sim \exp\left(\frac{\pi i \mathcal{G}(V)}{12\tau}\right).$$

Examples 1: generalized conifold

(1) Generalized conifold, $\mathcal{T}_X^{4d} = (A_1, A_{2N-1})$ Argyres-Douglas theory

$$X : x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2 + x_4^{2N} = 0.$$

- After the small resolution, the exceptional curve $C \cong \mathbb{P}^1$ has normal bundle $N_{C|\tilde{X}} = \mathcal{O} \oplus \mathcal{O}(-2)$. There is a multiplicity of N 2-cycles shrinking to zero at the singularity, in the same homology class.
- Expand the IIB fields and Kähler form along the single $\omega_1^{(1,1)}$ as

$$B_2 = b_1 \omega_1^{(1,1)}, \quad C_2 = c_1 \omega_1^{(1,1)}, \quad C_4 = d_{2,1} \wedge \omega_1^{(1,1)}, \quad J = J_1 \omega_1^{(1,1)}$$

- Hypermultiplet scalars: $(b_1, c_1, d_1 = (\text{EM dual of } d_{2,1}), J_1)$.

Examples 1: generalized conifold

- The metric of scalars in the hypermultiplet (Ooguri, Vafa 96')(Saueressig, Vandoren 07'):

$$ds^2 = \tau_2^{-2} [V^{-1} (dd_1 - \vec{A} \cdot d\vec{y})^2 + V |d\vec{y}|^2].$$

with $\vec{y} = (-(c_1 - \tau_1 b_1), z\tau_2, \bar{z}\tau_2)$, $z = b_1 + iJ_1$

$$V = N \left(\frac{1}{4\pi} \ln \left(\frac{1}{z\bar{z}} \right) + \frac{1}{2\pi} \sum_{m \neq 0} K_0(2\pi\tau_2 |mz|) e^{2\pi i m (c_1 - \tau_1 b_1)} \right)$$

- Singular limit $\rightarrow \mathcal{M}_H(\mathcal{T}_X^{4d}) = \mathbb{C}^2 / \mathbb{Z}_N$.
- Consistent with the result from magnetic quiver (Xie 12')

$$\text{MQ}^{(4)} = \begin{array}{c} \bullet \text{---} \bullet \\ 1 \quad N \quad 1 \end{array}$$

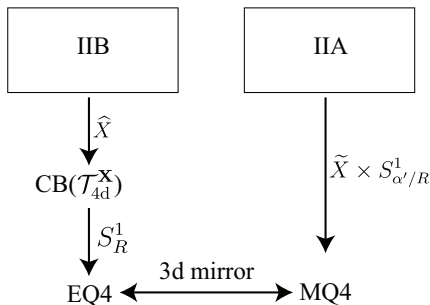
- Associated VOA is known (Song, Xie, Yan 17')(Beem, Rastelli 17')

$$W_{-\frac{N^2}{N+1}}(\mathfrak{sl}_N, [N-1, 1]).$$

Examples 2: terminal singularities

(2) General terminal singularities

- $\tilde{X}$ has f 2-cycles and no compact 4-cycle
- Read off the magnetic quiver of $\mathcal{T}_X^{4d}$, $\text{MQ}^{(4)}$ from Gopakumar-Vafa (GV) invariants of $\tilde{X}$! Following T-duality arguments in (Seiberg, Shenker 96')(Hori, Ooguri, Vafa 97')



Examples 2: terminal singularities

- $\text{MQ}^{(4)}$ is a $U(1)^f$ gauge theory with charged hypermultiplets from D2-brane wrapping 2-cycles C , with charge $q_\alpha = C \cdot D_\alpha$ under the α -th $U(1)$ gauge group
- These modes are exactly characterized by the $g = 0$ GV invariants of the degree q_α !
- E.g. in the example (A_1, A_{2N-1}) Argyres-Douglas theory
- non-zero GV invariant: $n_{\mathbf{d}=1}^{g=0} = N$, giving rise to

$$\text{MQ}^{(4)} = \begin{array}{c} \bullet \text{---} \bullet \\ 1 \quad N \quad 1 \end{array}$$

- Can be generalized to compute the $\text{MQ}^{(4)}$ for many X , following (Collinucci, Sangiovanni, Valandro 21')(Collinucci, De Marco, Sangiovanni, Valandro 21', 22')(De Marco, Sangiovanni, Valandro 22')... , including AD (A_m, A_n) , (A_m, D_n) and (A_{2n-1}, E_7) theories. $\text{MQ}^{(4)}$ reproduced

Associated VOA from geometry

- For 4d $\mathcal{N} = 2$ SCFT with a trivial, 0-dimensional HB, corresponds to the associated variety of a **lisse VOA**. X is a Q-factorial terminal singularity with $r_{5d} = f = 0$.

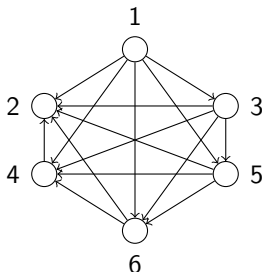
j	b	Singularity	condition
A_{N-1}	N	$x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^N + z^k = 0$	$\gcd(k, N) = 1$
D_N	$2N - 2$	$x_1^2 + x_2^{N-1} + x_2 x_3^2 + z^k = 0$	$\frac{2N-2}{\gcd(k, 2N-2)}$ even, $\gcd(k, 2N-2)$ odd
	N	$x_1^2 + x_2^{N-1} + x_2 x_3^2 + z^k x_3 = 0$	$\frac{N}{\gcd(k, N)}$ is even
E_6	12	$x_1^2 + x_2^3 + x_3^4 + z^k = 0$	$k \neq 3n$
	9	$x_1^2 + x_2^3 + x_3^4 + z^k x_3 = 0$	$k \neq 9n$
E_7	18	$x_1^2 + x_2^3 + x_2 x_3^3 + z^k = 0$	$k \neq 2n$
	14	$x_1^2 + x_2^3 + x_2 x_3^3 + z^k x_3 = 0$	$k \neq 2n$
E_8	30	$x_1^2 + x_2^3 + x_3^5 + z^k = 0$	$k \neq 30n$
	24	$x_1^2 + x_2^3 + x_3^5 + z^k x_3 = 0$	$k \neq 24n$
	20	$x_1^2 + x_2^3 + x_3^5 + z^k x_2 = 0$	$k \neq 20n$

- Derive the BPS quiver, from the intersection of S^3 , $n_{ij} = \Sigma_i \cdot \Sigma_j$ on $\hat{X}$
- Following Orlik and Randell's conjecture (1977), applicable for

$$f(z_0, \dots, z_n) = z_0^{a_0} + z_0 z_1^{a_1} + \dots + z_{n-1} z_n^{a_n}, \quad n \geq 1.$$

Associated VOA from geometry

- $D_N^N[k]$ singularity given by $x^2 + zy^2 + z^{N-1} + w^k y = 0$
- For the example of $N = 8$, $k = 1$, the BPS quiver is given by



- We can compute the Schur index $\mathcal{I}(q)$ from the BPS quiver following (Cordova, Shao 15')(Cordova, Gaiotto, Shao 16')

Associated VOA from geometry

- For general N and $k = 1$,

$$\mathcal{I}(q) = (q; q)_{\infty}^{N-2} \sum_{n_i=0}^{\infty} \prod_{i=1}^{N-2} \frac{(-q)^{n_i}}{(q; q)_{n_i}^2} q^{n_i \cdot A \cdot n_i^T}$$

- A is given by the intersection form of 3-cycles in $\widehat{X}$
- For $N = 8$, $k = 1$:

$$\mathcal{I}(q) = 1 - 9q^2 + 7q^3 + 18q^4 - 27q^5 + q^6 + 57q^7 - 45q^8 + \mathcal{O}(q^9).$$

- Such kinds of VOA has no standard name, just the “Calabi-Yau VOA” V_X associated to the singularity X

Example 3: Cases with compact 4-cycles in $\widetilde{X}$

- We studied cases with one-dimensional 4d HB, $f = 0$ in Case (II) (Closset, Schafer-Nameki, YNW 21'):

sing.	$F(x)$	f	r_{5d}	$d_{H,5d}$	$\widehat{r}_{4d}$	$\widehat{d}_{H,4d}$
$\text{sing}(E_8)$	$x_3^7 + x_4^5 x_3 + x_2^3 + x_1^2$	0	1	29	29	1
$\text{sing}(E_7)$	$x_2^5 + x_3^3 x_2 + x_3 x_4^3 + x_1^2$	0	1	17	17	1
$\text{sing}(E_6)$	$x_2^4 + x_3^2 x_2 + x_1^3 + x_3 x_4^2$	0	1	11	11	1

- The Higgs branch of $\mathcal{T}_X^{5d}$ is the minimal nilpotent orbit of E_n
- The magnetic quiver of $\mathcal{T}_X^{5d}$ and $\mathcal{T}_X^{4d}$ are 3d mirror to each other
- For the Higgs branch of $\mathcal{T}_X^{4d}$, using inversion (Grimminger, Hanany 20')(symplectic duality), they are $\mathbb{C}^2/\Gamma_{E_n}!$

Example 3: Cases with compact 4-cycles in $\tilde{X}$

- The associated VOA is conjectured to be

$$\mathcal{W}_{k_{2d}}(E_n, \mathcal{O}_{\text{subregular}}), \quad k_{2d} = -h^\vee + \frac{h^\vee}{h^\vee + 1}.$$

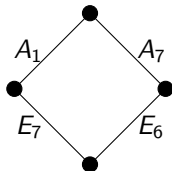
- Central charge matches that of the 4d SCFT, from deformed geometry

$$c_{2d} = -\frac{1342}{13}, -\frac{3706}{19}, -\frac{13978}{31} \text{ for } E_6, E_7, E_8.$$

- The associated variety is indeed $\mathbb{C}^2/\Gamma_{E_n}!$

Example 3: Cases with compact 4-cycles in $\tilde{X}$

- Studied similar cases with 2-dimensional Higgs branch
- We also found a number of new VOAs with no W-algebra descriptions, but with associated varieties e.g.



- Just “Calabi-Yau” VOA

Conclusions

- Extremely rich geometric, algebraic and physical structures from superstring/M-theory on canonical threefold singularities X
 - Connection between the resolution/deformation from the VOA of the 4d $\mathcal{N} = 2$ SCFT
 - More adventurous: into the realm of 4-fold singularities, with less supersymmetry
- (1) M-theory $\rightarrow$ 3d $\mathcal{N} = 2$ theories (van Beest, Gould, Schafer-Nameki, YNW 22')(Najjar, Tian, YNW 23')
- (2) Type II superstring $\rightarrow$ 2d (2, 2) or (0, 4) theories (Ongoing work with Cvetic, Hübner, Tian, Zhang)
- Generalized symmetries not covered in this talk (see Mirjam Cvetič's talk)
 - Learn more about quantum field theories/many body physics from string theory!
 - Thanks!