

# Application of Double Field Theory to Flux Compactifications

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# The Problem of Moduli Stabilization

Motivation from the perspective of string phenomenology

- String phenomenology:

String Theory

$$D = 10$$

Dimensional Reduction  $\rightarrow$

Observable Physics

$$D = 4$$

- Traditional string compactifications: Vacuum degeneracy gives rise to large number of massless scalar fields (moduli) in effective four-dimensional theory

$\rightarrow$  obvious contradiction to experiments

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# Flux Compactifications

Going beyond differential geometry

- Idea: Allow for non-vanishing background fields on internal manifold, e.g. for type II NS-NS two-form  $B$

$$H_{\text{flux}} = \langle dB_{\text{int}} \rangle$$

Non-zero flux of the fields gives rise to scalar potential depending on moduli

→ moduli become massive

- Problem: Full moduli stabilization requires “non-geometric” fluxes

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 H_{ijk} & \xleftrightarrow{T_i} & F^i{}_{jk} & \xleftrightarrow{T_j} & Q_k{}^{ij} & \xleftrightarrow{T_k} & R^{ijk} \\
 \text{NS-NS flux} & & \text{geometric} & & \text{non-geometric} & & \text{non-geometric}
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# Double Field Theory (DFT)

Enhancing point particles with stringy features

- Double number of coordinates by adding “winding coordinates”  $\tilde{x}_i$  conjugate to winding number  $\tilde{p}_i$  (cf.  $x^i \leftrightarrow p^i$ )

$$\begin{aligned} X^I &= (\tilde{x}_i, x^i) \\ P^I &= (\tilde{p}_i, p^i) \end{aligned}, \quad i = 1, \dots, D; \quad I = 1, \dots, 2D$$

- Enhance point particles with “stringy” features and enable them to transform under T-duality
  - $D = 10$  SUGRAs arise as solutions to “strong constraint”
  - T-duality transformations as rotations of ten-dimensional “physical section” through doubled spacetime

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# Overview

## Previous works and objectives

- Starting point: “flux formulation” of DFT
- Compactification of purely internal contribution on  $CY_3$  gives rise to scalar potential of  $\mathcal{N} = 2$  gauged SUGRA [Blumenhagen, Font, Plauschinn '15]
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# Dimensional Reduction (1)

## Type II DFT on a Calabi-Yau three-fold

- Starting point: Bosonic part of type II DFT action

$$S_{\text{NS-NS}} = \frac{1}{2} \int d^{20} X e^{-2d} \left[ \hat{\mathcal{F}}_{\hat{M}\hat{N}\hat{P}} \hat{\mathcal{F}}_{\hat{M}'\hat{N}'\hat{P}'} \left( \frac{1}{4} \mathcal{H}^{\hat{M}\hat{M}'} \eta^{\hat{N}\hat{N}'} \eta^{\hat{P}\hat{P}'} - \frac{1}{12} \mathcal{H}^{\hat{M}\hat{M}'} \mathcal{H}^{\hat{N}\hat{N}'} \mathcal{H}^{\hat{P}\hat{P}'} - \frac{1}{6} \eta^{\hat{M}\hat{M}'} \eta^{\hat{N}\hat{N}'} \eta^{\hat{P}\hat{P}'} \right) + \hat{\mathcal{F}}_{\hat{M}} \hat{\mathcal{F}}_{\hat{M}'} \left( \eta^{\hat{M}\hat{M}'} - \mathcal{H}^{\hat{M}\hat{M}'} \right) \right]$$

$$S_{\text{R-R}} = \frac{1}{2} \int d^{20} X \left( -\frac{1}{2} \sum_n |\hat{\mathcal{G}}_n|^2 \right), \quad \hat{\mathcal{G}}_n = (-1)^{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor} \star \hat{\mathcal{G}}_n,$$

# Dimensional Reduction (2)

## Handling the DFT Action

- Step 1: Separate kinetic terms and scalar potential
- Step 2: Reformulate action in terms of twisted differential

$$\mathcal{D} = d - H \wedge - F \circ - Q \bullet - R_L \underbrace{-Y \wedge -Z \nabla}_{\text{gen. dilaton}}$$

with, e.g.,

$$Q \bullet : \begin{array}{l} \Omega^p(CY_3) \longrightarrow \Omega^{p-1}(CY_3) \\ \omega_p \quad \quad \quad \mapsto \quad \frac{1}{2!} Q_i^{jk} dx^i \wedge \iota_j \wedge \iota_k \wedge \omega_p \end{array}$$

- Step 3: Expand in terms of cohomology basis, integrate equations of motion and duality constraints over internal space

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# Effective Four-Dimensional Action

## Partially dualized $\mathcal{N} = 2$ gauged SUGRA

$$\begin{aligned}
S_{\text{IIA}} &= \int \frac{1}{2} R^{(4)} \star \mathbf{1}^{(4)} - d\phi \wedge \star d\phi - \frac{e^{-4\phi}}{4} dB \wedge \star dB - g_{ij} dt^i \wedge \star dt^j - g_{ab} dz^a \wedge \star dz^b \\
&\quad + \frac{1}{2} \text{Im} \mathcal{N}_{IJ} F_2^J \wedge \star F_2^I + \frac{1}{2} \text{Re} \mathcal{N}_{IJ} F_2^J \wedge F_2^I + \frac{1}{2} \tilde{\Delta}_{AB} dC_0^A \wedge \star dC_0^B \\
&\quad + \frac{1}{2} (\Delta^{-1})^{IJ} \left( d(\tilde{\mathcal{O}}_{1A} \tilde{C}_2^A) + \tilde{\mathcal{O}}_{1A} C_0^A dB \right) \wedge \star \left( d(\tilde{\mathcal{O}}_{JB} \tilde{C}_2^B) + \tilde{\mathcal{O}}_{JB} C_0^B dB \right) \\
&\quad + \left( d(\tilde{\mathcal{O}}_{1A} \tilde{C}_2^A) + \tilde{\mathcal{O}}_{1A} C_0^A dB \right) \wedge \left( e^{2\phi} (\Delta^{-1})^{IJ} (\mathcal{O}^T)_J{}^B M_{BC} dC_0^C \right) - \frac{1}{2} dB \wedge C_0^A S_{AB} dC_0^B \\
&\quad - \left( \tilde{\mathcal{O}}_{1A} \tilde{C}_2^A - G_{\text{flux}} B \right) \wedge \left( dC_1^I + \frac{1}{2} \tilde{\mathcal{O}}_{1B} \tilde{C}_2^B - \frac{1}{2} G_{\text{flux}}^I B \right) + V_{\text{scalar}} \star \mathbf{1}^{(4)} \\
V_{\text{scalar}} &= \frac{e^{-2\phi}}{2} V^I (\mathcal{O}^T)_I{}^A M_{AB} \mathcal{O}^B{}_J V^J + \frac{e^{-2\phi}}{2} W^A (\tilde{\mathcal{O}}^T)_A{}^I N_{IJ} \tilde{\mathcal{O}}^J{}_B \bar{W}^B \\
&\quad - \frac{e^{-2\phi}}{4\mathcal{K}} W^A S_{AC} \mathcal{O}^C{}_I \left( V^I \bar{V}^J + \bar{V}^I V^J \right) (\mathcal{O}^T)_J{}^D S_{DB} \bar{W}^B \\
&\quad + \frac{e^{4\phi}}{2} \left( G_{\text{flux}}^I + \tilde{\mathcal{O}}_{1A} C_0^A \right) N_{IJ} \left( G_{\text{flux}}^J + \tilde{\mathcal{O}}_{1B} C_0^B \right).
\end{aligned}$$



# Conclusion (1)

- Consistency check: Type II DFT compactified on Calabi-Yau three-fold gives rise to full four-dimensional action of  $\mathcal{N} = 2$  gauged SUGRA
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## Conclusion (2)

- Trace-terms and generalized dilaton fluxes

$$\mathcal{F}_i = F^m{}_{mi} + 2Y_i, \quad \mathcal{F}^i = Q_m{}^{mi} + 2Z^i$$

give rise to additional terms in flux matrices, e.g.

$$\mathcal{O}^{\mathbb{A}}_{\mathbb{I}} = \begin{pmatrix} -(\tilde{f}^{\mathbb{A}}_{\mathbb{I}} + \tilde{y}^{\mathbb{A}}_{\mathbb{I}}) & (\tilde{q}^{\mathbb{A}\mathbb{I}} + \tilde{z}^{\mathbb{A}\mathbb{I}}) \\ (f_{\mathbb{A}\mathbb{I}} + y_{\mathbb{A}\mathbb{I}}) & -(q_{\mathbb{A}}^{\mathbb{I}} + z_{\mathbb{A}}^{\mathbb{I}}) \end{pmatrix}$$

→ Ten-dimensional origin of non-unimodular gaugings in  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  gauged SUGRA?

# Conclusion (3)

- IIA  $\leftrightarrow$  IIB Mirror Symmetry restored:

$$\begin{array}{ll} t^i & \leftrightarrow z^a, & g_{ij} & \leftrightarrow g_{ab}, \\ \mathcal{M}_{AB} & \leftrightarrow \mathcal{N}_{IJ}, & h^{1,1} & \leftrightarrow h^{1,2}, \\ V^I & \leftrightarrow W^A, & S_{IJ} & \leftrightarrow S_{AB} \\ C_n^I & \leftrightarrow C_n^A, & G_{\text{flux}}^I & \leftrightarrow G_{\text{flux}}^A, \\ \mathcal{O}_{\text{I}}^A & \leftrightarrow \tilde{\mathcal{O}}_{\text{A}}^I. \end{array}$$

# Outlook

- DFT provides a useful framework to handle non-geometric flux compactifications
- Possibilities for further research: orientifold compactifications, heterotic DFT, Exceptional Field Theory, ...

# End of Talk

**Questions?**