

F-theory and $\text{AdS}_3/\text{CFT}_2$

Craig Lawrie

1612.05640 with S. Schäfer-Nameki, T. Weigand

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1705.04679 with C. Couzens, D. Martelli, S. Schäfer-Nameki, J. Wong

AdS₃/CFT₂ and F-theory

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F-theory is physics in terms of geometry

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{E}_7 & \hookrightarrow & Y \\ & & \downarrow \\ & & B \supset C \end{array}$$

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Talks at this conference:

SO(10) Fibers [Oehlmann]
 E6 Fibers [Garcia-Etxebarria]
 SO(8) Fibers [Long] →
 MSSM [Mayorga]
 (4,6) Curves [Sung]

\mathbb{E}_τ

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Y

Global Anomalies [Corvilain, Greiner, Grimm]
 Sheaf Cohomology [Bies, Weigand]
 Rational Sections [Cvetic, Lin]
 T-branes [Marchesano, Schweiger]
 Periods [Otsuka]
 Euler Characteristics [Esole]
 Matrix Factorisations [Valandro]

↓

Singular Divisors [Raguram]

Possible Bases [Halverson, Nelson, Taylor, Wang] →

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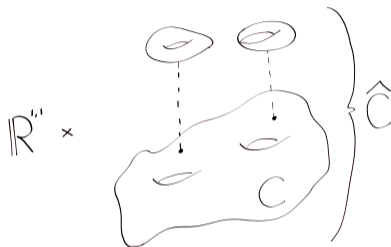
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C

← Curves [This Talk]

Strings from D3-branes on Curves

D3-branes can wrap curves in base of F-theory

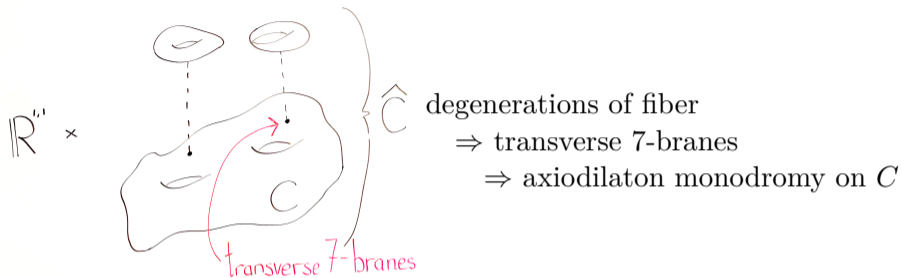


D3-branes on $\mathbb{R}^{1,1} \times C$

These are strings in D dimensions

D	
6	self-dual strings
4	dual to (half-SUSY) instantons; cosmic strings
2	spacetime filling, necessary for tadpole cancellation

The Principle Feature of F-theory



$\rightarrow \mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM with varying coupling, τ , on $C \subset$ D3-brane

For $d\tau = 0$ worldvolume theory on string is σ -model into Hitchin moduli space [Bershadsky, Johanson, Sadov, Vafa]

For $d\tau \neq 0$, what is SCFT on string?

- ① Single D3-brane on C with varying τ [CL, Schäfer-Nameki, Weigand]
→ study explicitly via **topological duality twist**
- ② Multiple D3-branes on C with varying τ
[Couzens, CL, Martelli, Schäfer-Nameki, Wong]
→ no explicit construction
→ construct **AdS₃ supergravity duals**
→ determine **central charges** from holography
- ③ Crosscheck [Couzens, CL, Martelli, Schäfer-Nameki, Wong]
→ central charges from M-theory via M/F-duality
→ central charges from microscopic constructions
→ self-dual strings in 6d and M5-brane anomaly inflow

Topological Duality Twist

Abelian $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM

\Rightarrow “bonus” $U(1)_D$ symmetry [Intriligator], [Kapustin, Witten]

$$\gamma : \tau \rightarrow \frac{a\tau + b}{c\tau + d}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in SL(2, \mathbb{Z}) \quad \rightarrow \quad e^{i\alpha(\gamma)} \equiv \frac{c\tau + d}{|c\tau + d|} \in U(1)_D$$

Objects have charge q_D if transforms by $e^{iq_D\alpha(\gamma)}$ under γ

Object	F^+	F^-	Ψ, Q	$\tilde{\Psi}, \tilde{Q}$	ϕ_i
q_D	1	-1	1/2	-1/2	0

We have a $U(1)_D$ connection

$$\mathcal{A}_D = \frac{d\tau_1}{2\tau_2}$$

Topological duality twist: To preserve SUSY compensate non-trivial transformation of supercharges under holonomy of C and $U(1)_D$ by R-symmetry transformation. [Martucci]

Construct topological duality twisted dimensional reduction to 2d

[CL, Schäfer-Nameki, Weigand]

SUSY on worldvolume of string depends on dimension:

D	8	6	4	2
SUSY	(0, 8)	(0, 4)	(0, 2)	(0, 2)

Can compute the central charges in each case; for F-theory to 6d:

$$c_R = 3C \cdot C + 3c_1(B) \cdot C$$

$$c_L = 3C \cdot C + 9c_1(B) \cdot C$$

How to generalize to multiple D3-branes on C ?

Topological duality twist does **not** (obviously) generalize

→ instead can consider M5-branes [Assel, Schäfer-Nameki]

Can consider AdS/CFT \Rightarrow large $N \Rightarrow$ large numbers of D3-branes

Explore CFT_d via AdS_{d+1} solutions of gravity [[Maldacena](#)]

Top-down approach: construct general supersymmetric solutions of Type II/11d SUGRA with AdS_{d+1} factor [[Martelli, Sparks](#)]

For F-theory: Type IIB solutions with AdS_{d+1} and non-trivial τ

- τ variation comes from 7-branes; log-singularities and monodromy
- no such solutions known with full $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ monodromy
- for poles in τ see [[Couzens](#)], [[D'Hoker, Gutperle, Uhlemann](#)]

AdS₃ arises generally as the near horizon limit of black holes in 5d

Micrstate counting of dual CFT₂

→ microscopic origin of black hole entropy

→ with enough SUSY can(?) compute exact degeneracies of states

5d BPS black holes arise from 6d BPS strings on S^1

→ microstate counting of strings in 6d → macroscopic entropy

In 5d supergravity entropy from string microstates done with

- $\mathcal{N} = 4$ or $\mathcal{N} = 2$ [Strominger, Vafa], [Breckenridge, Myers, Peet, Vafa]
- $\mathcal{N} = 1$ [Vafa], [Haghighat, Murthy, Vafa, Vandoren]

In [Haghighat, Murthy, Vafa, Vandoren] entropy determined for $N = 1$ via topological duality twist and effective 6d supergravity

IIB content:

$$\begin{aligned}
 F_5 &\longleftrightarrow \text{D3-branes} \\
 G_3 &\begin{cases} F_3 &\longleftrightarrow \text{D1/D5-branes} \\ H_3 &\longleftrightarrow \text{F-strings/NS5-branes} \end{cases} \\
 \tau = C_0 + ie^{-\Phi} &\longleftrightarrow \text{7-branes}
 \end{aligned}$$

Set $G_3 = 0$

General starting point:

$$ds^2 = e^{2A} ds^2(\text{AdS}_3) + ds^2(M_7)$$

$$F_5 = (1 + *)\text{vol}(\text{AdS}_3) \wedge F^{(2)}$$

To preserve (0, 2) SUSY solve Killing spinor equation

$$\nabla_M \epsilon + \frac{i}{192} \Gamma^{P_1 P_2 P_3 P_4} F_{M P_1 P_2 P_3 P_4} \epsilon = 0$$

General solution

[Couzens, CL, Martelli, Schäfer-Nameki, Wong]

$$\begin{array}{c} S^1 \hookrightarrow M_7 \\ \downarrow \\ M_6 \end{array}$$

S^1 fibration provides $U(1)_r$ R-symmetry of $(0, 2)$

τ variation combines into an auxiliary Kähler elliptic fibration M_8 over M_6 with non-trivial constraint

$$\square_8 R_8 - \frac{1}{2} R_8^2 + R_{8ij} R_8^{ij} = 0$$

First consider more SUSY

→ $(0, 4)$ SUSY \Rightarrow dual to strings in 6d

→ $(2, 2)$ SUSY

Requiring (0, 4) is highly constrained, $A = \text{const}$ and

$$\begin{array}{ccc} S^1 & \hookrightarrow & S^3 & & Y_3 & \leftrightarrow & \mathbb{E}_7 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\ M_6 = & & S^2 & \times & B_2 & & \end{array}$$

Killing spinors transform in $(\mathbf{2}, \mathbf{1})$ of S^3 isometry

$$SO(4) = SU(2)_r \times SU(2)_L$$

$SU(2)_r \rightarrow$ superconformal R-symmetry

$SU(2)_L \rightarrow$ additional flavour symmetry

Requiring (0, 4) is highly constrained $A = \text{const}$ and

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 S^1 & \hookrightarrow & S^3/\Gamma & & Y_3 & \leftrightarrow & \mathbb{E}_\tau \\
 & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
 M_6 = & & S^2 & \times & B_2 & &
 \end{array}$$

Killing spinors transform in $(\mathbf{2}, \mathbf{1})$ of S^3 isometry

$$SO(4) = SU(2)_r \times SU(2)_L$$

$SU(2)_r \rightarrow$ superconformal R-symmetry

$SU(2)_L \rightarrow$ additional flavour symmetry **when $\Gamma = 1$**

We preserve the same SUSY for $\Gamma \subset SU(2)_L$ finite subgroup.

General F-theory solution of Type IIB SUGRA dual to 2d (0, 4) is

$$\begin{array}{c} \mathbb{E}_7 \hookrightarrow Y_3 \\ \downarrow \\ \text{AdS}_3 \times S^3/\Gamma \times B_2 \end{array}$$

with F_5 flux

$$F_5 = (1 + *)\text{vol}(\text{AdS}_3) \wedge J_B$$

J_B is Kähler form on B Poincaré dual to a curve C
 $\Rightarrow C$, wrapped by D3-brane, ample in B

Take $\Gamma = \mathbb{Z}_M$

S^3/\mathbb{Z}_M is near horizon of Taub-NUT metric; brane solution is

$$\mathbb{R}^{1,1} \times TN_M \times B_2$$

with N D3-branes on $\mathbb{R}^{1,1} \times C$

→ near-horizon

$$\text{AdS}_3 \times S^3/\mathbb{Z}_M \times B_2$$

M Kaluza–Klein monopoles on $\mathbb{R}^{1,1} \times B_2$

$M = 1$ is a special case: near-horizon geometry is the same for zero or one KK monopoles

Holographic Central Charges

Leading Order

Brown–Henneaux formula

$$c = \frac{3R_{\text{AdS}}}{2G_N^{(3)}}$$

$$c_{\text{SUGRA}}^{\text{IIB}} = N^2 \frac{3\text{vol}(S^3/\mathbb{Z}_M)\text{vol}(B)32\pi^2}{\text{vol}(S^3/\mathbb{Z}_M)} = 6N^2 M \text{vol}(B)$$

Further

$$\text{vol}(B) = \int_B J_B \wedge J_B = C \cdot C$$

So

$$c_{\text{SUGRA}}^{\text{IIB}} = 3N^2 M C \cdot C$$

is the leading order contribution to the (left and right) central charge.

Holographic Central Charges

Subleading Order

Gravitational Chern–Simons couplings from 7-branes bulk

$$S_{CS}(\Gamma_{\text{AdS}_3}) = \frac{c_L - c_R}{96\pi} \int_{\text{AdS}_3} \omega_{CS}(\Gamma_{\text{AdS}_3})$$

\Rightarrow

$$c_L - c_R = 6Nc_1(B) \cdot C$$

Gauging $SO(4)$ isometry of S^3

\Rightarrow

$$k_r^{(1)} = \frac{1}{2}Nc_1(B) \cdot C$$

Leading and subleading central charges

$$c_R^{\text{IIB}} = 3N^2 C \cdot C + 3N c_1(B) \cdot C$$

$$c_L^{\text{IIB}} = 3N^2 C \cdot C + 9N c_1(B) \cdot C$$

Matches with spectrum computation for $N = 1$:

$$c_R^{\text{spectrum}} = 3C \cdot C + 3c_1(B) \cdot C$$

$$c_L^{\text{spectrum}} = 3C \cdot C + 9c_1(B) \cdot C$$

Only for $M = 1$

⇒ subleading contributions for $M > 1$ tricky

⇒ look at T-duality to M-theory

- ① Constructed general solution of Type IIB supergravity with
 - (0, 4) SUSY in dual SCFT
 - $G_3 = 0$ and **arbitrary** τ

- ② Geometry:

$$\text{AdS}_3 \times S^3/\Gamma \times B_2$$

- ③ Flux through (ample) curve in $B_2 \Rightarrow N$ D3-branes on C

- ④ Dual SCFT

→ worldvolume theory of string in 6d F-theory compactification

F-theory on Y_3 T-dual to M-theory on Y_3

General solution:

$$\text{AdS}_3 \times S^2 \times Y_3$$

with flux

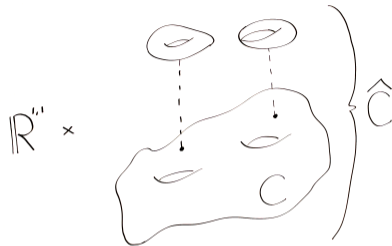
$$G_4 = \text{dvol}(S^2) \wedge J_{Y_3}$$

(See [Colgain, Wu, Yavartanoo])

J_{Y_3} is Kahler form on Y_3 Poincaré dual to divisor

$$MB + N\hat{C}$$

M5-branes on $\mathbb{R}^{1,1} \times P$
 $P \in |MB + N\hat{C}|$



N D3-branes on $C \longleftrightarrow N$ M5-branes on \hat{C}
 M KK monopoles $\longleftrightarrow M$ M5-branes on B

See also [Bena, Diaconescu, Florea]

$$\hat{C} \cdot \hat{C} \cdot \hat{C} = 0$$

\Rightarrow divisor \hat{C} not ample, not Poincaré dual to Kähler form

\Rightarrow no AdS dual to string from M5-branes wrapping \hat{C}

KK monopoles now M5-branes on B

→ Brown–Henneaux for holographic central charges for all M

$$c_R^{\text{M-th}} = 3N^2 MC \cdot C + 3N(2 - M^2)c_1(B) \cdot C$$

$$c_L^{\text{M-th}} = 3N^2 MC \cdot C + 3N(4 - M^2)c_1(B) \cdot C$$

Matches $c_{R,L}^{\text{IIB}}$ for $M = 1$

Includes both leading and subleading orders in N

→ also subsubleading → center of mass contributions

→ not discussed today (but agrees with microscopic constructions)

D3-branes on C

→ self-dual strings (coupled to self-dual 2-form B) in 6d

→ anomaly polynomial known [Berman, Harvey], [Shimizu, Tachikawa]

see also [CL, Schäfer-Nameki, Weigand]

$$I_4^{\text{SDS}} = -\frac{1}{24}p_1(T) [6Nc_1(B) \cdot C] + c_2(R) \left[\frac{1}{2}N^2C \cdot C + \frac{1}{2}Nc_1(B) \cdot C \right] + \dots$$

Superconformal algebra relation

$$c_R = 6k_R = 3N^2C \cdot C + 3Nc_1(B) \cdot C$$

Gravitational anomaly

$$c_L - c_R = 6Nc_1(B) \cdot C$$

Anomaly polynomial for N M5-branes [(Freed,) Harvey, Minasian, Moore]

$$I_8[N] = NI_8[1] + \frac{1}{24}(N^3 - N)p_2(\mathcal{N})$$

$$I_8[1] = \frac{1}{48} \left[p_2(\mathcal{N}) - p_2(TW) + \frac{1}{4}(p_1(TW) - p_1(\mathcal{N}))^2 \right]$$

Integrate over complex surface P (say $MB + N\hat{C}$)

$$I_4^{\text{M5}}[P] = -\frac{1}{24}p_1(W_2) \left[\frac{1}{2}c_2(Y_3) \cdot P \right] + p_1(\mathcal{N}_3) \left[\frac{1}{6}P \cdot P \cdot P \right] + \dots$$

Central charges ($P = MB + N\hat{C}$ ample) [Maldacena, Strominger, Witten]

$$c_R = 6k_3 = 3N^2MC \cdot C + (2 - M^2)Nc_1(B) \cdot C$$

$$c_L - c_R = 2N(4 - M^2)c_1(B) \cdot C$$

Summary of (0, 4) Solution

Construct general AdS₃ solution of IIB SUGRA with dual (0, 4) SCFT

Computed holographic central charges ($M = 1$)

$$c_R = 3N^2 C \cdot C + 3N c_1(B) \cdot C$$

$$c_L = 3N^2 C \cdot C + 9N c_1(B) \cdot C$$

Agrees with central charge computation from

- 1 11d supergravity
- 2 Self-dual strings in 6d
- 3 M5-brane anomaly inflow
- 4 Spectrum (for $N = 1$)

- Started **systematically** exploring holographic constructions in F-theory – varying axio-dilaton.
- Constructed AdS_3 solutions preserving $(0, 2)$, $(0, 4)$, and $(2, 2)$ SUSY in dual CFT_2
 - what are the dual CFTs for $(0, 2)$, $(2, 2)$?
- For $(0, 4)$ we obtained a microscopic understanding of the holographic constructions
 - what about $G_3 \neq 0$ → all AdS_3 solutions dual to $(0, 4)$
- AdS duals to strings of minimal 6d SCFTs [del Zotto, Lockhart]
 - curve wrapped by D3-branes not ample