

# Heterotic Torsional Backgrounds, Threshold Corrections and Mock Modular Forms

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Montreal, June 2012

*L. Carlevaro, D.I. and M. Petropoulos, arXiv:0812.3391*

*L. Carlevaro, E. Dudas and D.I., arXiv:1207.xxxx*

# Introduction

## Heterotic compactifications

- $\mathcal{N} = 1$  heterotic compactifications correspond to solvable perturbative worldsheet CFT only at very special points: toroidal orbifolds, Gepner models, free fermions,...
- Usually the geometrical interpretation is lost – although the topological data matches geometrical Calabi-Yau compactifications in the relevant cases

## Smooth compactifications

- Instead one can consider in supergravity a CY compactification
- One specifies a gauge bundle  $V$  on the compactification manifold. Needs to satisfy the modified Bianchi identity for the NSNS two-form
- Satisfied automatically for the standard embedding of the  $SU(3)$  spin connection in the gauge connection  $\rightarrow$  however not interesting
- For more general gauge bundles, torsion is usually needed  $\rightarrow$  fluxes appear naturally even without trying to stabilize moduli

## Heterotic Flux compactifications (torsional)

- Less understood that type II models, as *not* conformally CY, not even Kähler manifolds appear
- One needs therefore to deal with explicit examples (few are known)
- However, perturbative heterotic compactifications are potentially accessible to worldsheet CFT methods because (i) no R-R flux and (ii) the dilaton is not stabilized perturbatively
- Stepstone : heterotic gauged linear sigma-models

(Adams, Lapan,...)

## Local models of flux compactifications

- Simpler descriptions can be found near smoothed singularities (as Klebanov-Strassler throats in type IIB) → local models
- In heterotic, examples with a solvable worldsheet CFT. Simplest is (a  $T^2$  fibration over) warped Eguchi-Hanson space with Abelian bundle.
- Other example: resolved orbifoldized conifold
- Allows to study some stringy aspects of flux compactifications → in this talk, hypermultiplets contributions to gauge thresholds

## Outline

- 1 Heterotic supergravity solutions
- 2 Conformal field theory approach
- 3 Gauge threshold corrections
- 4 Conclusions

## $\mathcal{N} = 1$ heterotic vacua in four dimensions

- An  $\mathcal{N} = 1$  heterotic compactification with torsion corresponds to a 6d manifold admitting a covariantly constant spinor w.r.t. the torsionfull spin connection:

$$\delta\psi_n = (\nabla_n - \frac{1}{4}\mathcal{H}_n)\eta = 0$$

- Defines an  $SU(3)$  structure, characterized by the  $SU(3)$ -invariant real 2-form  $J_{mn} = -i\eta^\dagger\Gamma_{mn}\eta$  and complex 3-form  $\Omega_{mnp} = \eta^\dagger\Gamma_{mnp}\eta$
- Allows to define a complex structure from  $\Omega$  (such that  $J$  is  $(1, 1)$  and  $\Omega$  is  $(3, 0)$ ) and a metric
- The susy conditions are written as generalized calibrations for wrapped fivebranes:
 
$$\begin{cases} d(e^{-2\Phi}\Omega) & = 0 \\ d(e^{-2\Phi}J \wedge J) & = 0 \\ d(e^{-2\Phi}J) & = e^{-2\Phi} \star_6 \mathcal{H} \end{cases}$$
- The solutions are complex but non Kähler manifolds

## Gauge bundle and Bianchi identity

- The gauge bundle ( $Spin(32)/\mathbb{Z}_2$  or  $E_8 \times E_8$ ) has to satisfy then **Hermitean Yang-Mills equations**:  $\mathcal{F}^{a\bar{b}} J_{a\bar{b}} = \mathcal{F}^{ab} = \mathcal{F}^{\bar{a}\bar{b}} = 0$
- Existence of massive spinorial reps of the gauge group gives the constraint  $c_1(V) \in H^2(2\mathbb{Z})$

### Bianchi identity

- **Strongest form**:  $d\mathcal{H} = \alpha' [\text{tr}R(\omega_-) \wedge R(\omega_-) - \text{Tr}_v F \wedge F]$  in forms
- **Usually**:  $ch_2(V) = p_1(TS)$  in cohomology

- Non-linear constraint (as  $R(\omega_-)$  constructed out of the torsionfull spin connection  $\omega - \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{H}$ )
- Use of different connections on  $TM$   $\rightarrow$  higher order corrections
- A simple solution (strongest form): *standard embedding* of the spin connection in the gauge connection  $\rightarrow$  CY
- These conditions can be generalized to include fivebranes sources  $\rightarrow$  non-perturbative vacua (may have perturbative type I dual).

## Eguchi-Hanson space

- EH gravitational instanton in 4d  $\rightarrow$  hyper-Kähler ( $J_i$  self-dual)
- Resolution of an  $A_1$  singularity (non compact  $\mathbb{C}^2/\mathbb{Z}_2$  orbifold)

### Explicit metric

- Introduce  $SU(2)$  left-invariant one-forms  $\sigma_i^L$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, 3$
- $ds_{\text{EH}}^2 = (1 - \frac{a^4}{r^4})^{-1} dr^2 + \frac{r^4}{4} \left[ \sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2 + (1 - \frac{a^4}{r^4}) \sigma_3^2 \right]$
- Hopf fibration  $S^1 \rightarrow S^3 \rightarrow S^2$  degenerates at the bolt  $r = a$   
 $\rightarrow$  non-trivial two-cycle  $\Sigma$
- No conical singularity  $\rightarrow$  asympt.  $S^3/\mathbb{Z}_2 \rightarrow \pi_1(\text{EH}) = \mathbb{Z}_2$
- $2^{\text{d}}$  cohomology class generated by a normalizable, anti-self-dual  $(1, 1)$ -form  $\omega_{[2]}$ , locally written

$$\omega_{[2]} = -\frac{a^2}{4\pi} d\left(\frac{\sigma_3}{r^2}\right)$$

# Gauge bundle over Eguchi-Hanson

- Consider  $\mathcal{N} = 1$  SYM on Eguchi-Hanson space
- Hermitean YM equations  $\mathcal{F} \lrcorner J_i = 0 \rightarrow \mathcal{F}$  anti-self dual

## Abelian instanton in EH space

- $\mathcal{F} = -2\pi \omega_{[2]} \vec{\ell} \cdot \vec{T}$
- $\rightarrow \int ch_2(V) = -\frac{1}{4} \sum_{\alpha} \ell_{\alpha}^2 \text{tr}(iT^{\alpha})^2$
- Abelian bundles with vector structure :  $\ell_{\alpha} \in \mathbb{Z}$
- Abelian bundles without vector structure:  $\ell_{\alpha} \in \mathbb{Z} + \frac{1}{2}$  (Berkooz et al., 96)



# Conformally Eguchi-Hanson ansatz

- Heterotic on  $EH \times T^2$  with Abelian instanton background
- Susy conditions lead to five-brane like ansatz

(Cvetič, Lu, Pope)

## Heterotic supergravity solution

- $ds^2 = dx_\mu dx^\mu + \frac{U_2}{T_2} |dx^1 + T dx^2|^2 + H ds_{EH}^2$
- $e^{2\Phi} = g_s^2 H$
- $\mathcal{H} = \star^{EH} dH$

- Bianchi identity  $d\mathcal{H} = \alpha' (\text{tr}\mathcal{R}(\omega_-)^2 - \text{Tr}_v \mathcal{F}^2)$

→ for an Abelian bundle :

$$\Delta_{EH} H = \alpha' \star^{EH} \text{tr}\mathcal{R}(\omega_-)^2 + \frac{8\alpha' a^4}{r^8} \sum_{\alpha} \ell_{\alpha}^2 \text{Tr}_v (T^{\alpha})^2$$

- Generalization →  $T^2$  fibration  $\frac{U_2}{T_2} |dx^1 + T dx^2 + \alpha|^2$ ,  $d\alpha \in H^{1,1}(EH)$
- Bianchi solved using the *Chern connection* for  $Q_5 = 0$  (Fu, Tseng, Yau, 2008)
- These are local models of Dasgupta-Rajesh-Sethi compactifications ( $T^2 \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_6 \xrightarrow{\pi} K3$ )

(Dasgupta, Rajesh, Sethi 99)

# Large charge approximation

- In the large charge limit  $\ell^2 \gg 1$  the  $\mathcal{R}^2$  contribution to Bianchi is negligible
  - ➔ solution  $H(r) = 1 + \frac{2\alpha' Q_5}{r^2}$  with  $Q_5 = -\frac{\alpha'}{2} \ell_\alpha^2 \text{Tr}_v(T^\alpha)^2$
- Varying dilaton. capped at the bolt :  $e^{2\Phi_{\text{MAX}}} = g_s^2 H(a)$

## Blow-down limit

- blow-down limit  $a \rightarrow 0$  ( $g_s$  fixed) ➔ EH degenerates to  $\mathbb{C}^2/\mathbb{Z}_2$
- Abelian instanton becomes point-like
- Small instantons equivalent to *stack of  $\sim Q_5$  heterotic fivebranes*, transverse to  $\mathbb{C}^2/\mathbb{Z}_2$ 
  - ➔ linear dilaton blows up for  $r \rightarrow 0$  : *strong coupling*

# Integrated Bianchi identity : tadpole condition

- Bianchi identity not satisfied by this ansatz beyond the large charges limit ( $\mathcal{R}^2$  term)  $\rightarrow \alpha'$  corrections
- Barring this, integrated Bianchi gives  $\int_{S^3/\mathbb{Z}_2} \mathcal{H} = 8\pi\alpha' [3 + \int \text{ch}_2(V)]$
- Leads to tadpole-like condition  $Q_5 = \vec{\ell}^2 - 6$

## Tadpole-free models ?

- Case  $\vec{\ell} = (1, 1, 2, 10^{13})$   $\rightarrow$  peculiar blow-up of standard  $\mathbb{C}^2/\mathbb{Z}_2$  orb.
- Case  $\vec{\ell} = (1^6, 0^{10})$   $\rightarrow$  claimed to be a blown-up perturbative orbifold with shift vector  $(1^6, 0^{10}) \bmod$  internal lattice  $\mathcal{L}$  *(Honecker, Trapletti)*
- w/o vector structure  $\vec{\ell} = (\frac{1}{2}^{15}, -\frac{3}{2})$   $\rightarrow$  dual of Gimon-Polchinski *(Berkooz et al.)*
- Outside the scope of sugra as strong  $\alpha'$  corrections  $\rightarrow$  more latter...

Note that the blow-down limit of our models is *not* an orbifold point.

# Abelian bundle on EH in the double scaling limit

- String coupling grows in the blow-down limit of some 2-cycle  
 → defines a double-scaling limit of this cycle as  $g_s \rightarrow 0$  with  $g_s \frac{\sqrt{\alpha'}}{a}$  fixed
- Stays at fixed distance of the cycle in  $a$  units:  $\cosh \rho = (r/a)^2$  fixed  
 → space conformal to Eguchi-Hanson, weakly curved and coupled

## Heterotic sugra solution in the double scaling limit

$$\begin{aligned}
 ds^2 &= dx_\mu dx^\mu + \frac{\alpha' Q_5}{2} [d\rho^2 + \sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2 + \tanh^2 \rho \sigma_3^2] \\
 e^{2\Phi} &= \frac{2g_s^2 \alpha' Q_5}{a^2} \frac{1}{\cosh \rho} \\
 \mathcal{H} &= -\frac{\alpha' Q_5}{2} \tanh^2 \rho \Omega(S^3) \\
 \mathcal{A} &= \frac{\sigma_3}{2 \cosh \rho} \vec{\ell} \cdot \vec{T}
 \end{aligned}$$

- The blow-up parameter  $a$  disappears from the metric (eaten by dilaton zero-mode)

## 'Near-horizon' CFT of the blow-down limit

- In the blow-down limit,  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  orbifold of the fivebrane near-horizon solution (Callan-Harvey-Strominger)
- Worldsheet conformal field theory :  $SU(2) \mathcal{N} = (0, 1)$  wzw model at level  $2(Q_5 - 1)$  and linear dilaton of background charge  $Q = 1/\sqrt{Q_5}$   
➔ singular background
- Action of  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  orbifold  $g(z, \bar{z}) \rightarrow -g(z, \bar{z})$  : lens space  $S^3/\mathbb{Z}_2$
- Orbifold action in gauge group : in cases with vector structure,  $Spin(32)/\mathbb{Z}_2$  lattice unaffected

# CFT for the warped Eguchi-Hanson space

- The heterotic Eguchi-Hanson solution with line bundle has a worldsheet CFT *also* in the double scaling limit
- Chiral gauging of an  $SL(2, \mathbb{R})_{2Q_5} \times SU(2)_{2Q_5}$   $\mathcal{N} = (0, 1)$  WZW model :  $(g, h) \in SL(2, \mathbb{R}) \times SU(2) \rightarrow (e^{i\sigma_3 \tilde{\beta}} g e^{i\sigma_3 \beta}, h e^{i\sigma_3 \beta})$
- Couple the left worldsheet gauge field ( $\tilde{\beta}$ ) to the 32 het. fermions
- Embedding in  $\mathfrak{so}(32)$  Cartan: shift vector  $\vec{\ell}$   
 → worldsheet anomalies cancelled for  $Q_5 = \vec{\ell}^2 - 1$

## Lowest order background fields

- Asymmetric coset → bosonization useful (Johnson)
- Integrate out classically worldsheet gauge fields  $(A, \bar{A})$  →  $\Sigma$ -model on conformally EH after re-fermionization
- 4-fermion term  $\frac{2}{\cosh \rho} (\bar{\psi}^1 \bar{\psi}^2 + \bar{\psi}^3 \bar{\psi}^4) \ell_n \psi^{2n-1} \psi^{2n}$  → Abelian bundle

→ exact solution to Bianchi identity for any  $Q_5$  (E. Herrera-Cordero and D. I., work in progress)

# Worksheet instantons and Liouville potentials

- So far, the  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  orbifold, put "by hand" in the CFT  $\rightarrow$  is there an analogue of no-conical singularity condition of sugra ?
- 'K-theory' condition on the bundle  $c_1(V) \in H^2(2\mathbb{Z})$ , i.e  $\sum \ell_i \in 2\mathbb{Z}$   
 $\rightarrow$  role in worldsheet CFT ?
- $\frac{SL(2)}{U(1)}$  corrected by worldsheet non-perturbative effects (Fateev, Zamolodchikov)

## Liouville-like potentials for Abelian bundles

- In our heterotic coset, the dynamically generated  $\mathcal{N} = (2, 0)$  Liouville potential reads  $\mu_L(\bar{\psi}^\rho + \bar{\psi}^3) e^{-\sqrt{\ell^2 - 1}(\rho + i\gamma_R^3) - i\vec{\ell} \cdot \vec{X}_L}$   
 $(\partial X_L^\rho = \psi^{2n-1} \bar{\psi}^{2n})$
- Belongs to the twisted sector of the  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  orbifold
- Orbifold and (right) GSO invariant only if  $c_1(V) \in H^2(2\mathbb{Z})$

# Tadpole-free model with vector structure : $\vec{\ell} = (1^6, 0^{10})$

- Massive  $U(1) \in U(6)$  :  $m = 2/\sqrt{5}\alpha'$
- Unbroken  $SU(6) \times SO(20)$  : non-normalizable operators  $A_{\mu}^{ij} \partial X^{\mu} \bar{\psi}^i \psi^j$

## Massless hypermultiplets (localized chiral operators)

- First type :  $e^{-\frac{J\rho}{\sqrt{\ell^2-1}} - i\vec{n}\cdot\vec{X}_L} V_{J-1} \quad \rightarrow 2(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{15})_U + (\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1})_T + (\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{15})_T$
- Second type :  $e^{-\frac{J\rho}{\sqrt{\ell^2-1}} - i\vec{n}\cdot\vec{X}_L} V_{J-1} \bar{\psi}^{\alpha} \quad \rightarrow (\mathbf{20}, \mathbf{6})_U + (\mathbf{20}, \mathbf{6})_T$
- Third type :  $\vec{\ell} \cdot \vec{\partial} \bar{X}_L e^{-\frac{J\rho}{\sqrt{\ell^2-1}} - i\vec{n}\cdot\vec{X}_L} V_{J-1} \quad \rightarrow (\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1})_U + (\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{15})_T$

## Blow-down limit $\rightarrow$ not at orbifold point

- Blow-down limit: linear dilaton  $\mathcal{Q} = 1/\sqrt{5} \rightarrow$  as 5 fivebranes
- *same* bundle from blown-up perturbative  $\mathbb{T}^4/\mathbb{Z}_2$  orbifold (Honecker et al.)
- Spectrum found there  $\rightarrow$  different multiplicities



# $T^2$ fibrations over $EH$ and moduli stabilization

- Add Kaluza-Klein gauge fields  $\rightarrow T^2$  fibered over Eguchi-Hanson

## Fibered EH solution in the double scaling limit

$$ds^2 = dx_\mu^2 + \frac{U_2}{T_2} \left| dx^1 + q_1 \mathcal{A}_1 + T(dx^2 + q_2 \mathcal{A}_2) \right|^2 + 2\alpha' Q_5 \left[ d\rho^2 + \sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2 + \text{th}^2 \rho \sigma_3^2 \right]$$

- $\mathcal{A}_{1,2} \sim \sqrt{Q_5} \frac{\sigma_3}{2 \cosh \rho}$
- Bianchi identity  $\rightarrow Q_5 = \frac{2U_2}{T_2} |q_1 + Tq_2|^2$
- 'Self-dual' background under T-duality along  $T^2$ :  $B_{x^1,2\sigma^3} = G_{x^1,2\sigma^3}$  (square torus)
- Generically, invariance under  $T^2$  duality group constrains the  $T^2$  moduli  $U$  and  $T$

- The worldsheet CFT is constructed along the same lines as for internal gauge fields
- However the  $T^2$  CFT has to be at a rational point in the moduli space of  $T^2$  CFTs for consistency

### Rational torii

- $S^1$  CFT (free boson) is rational for  $R^2/\alpha' \in \mathbb{Q}$
- $T^2$  CFT is rational if  $T, U$  valued in the same **imaginary quadratic number field**  $K$ :

$$K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{D}) \sim \mathbb{Q} + \mathbb{Q}\sqrt{D} \quad \text{w. } D = b^2 - 4ac < 0 \text{ and } \gcd(a, b, c) = 1$$

- One can then construct a Liouville potential using a generator of the anti-holomorphic  $W$  algebra of the  $T^2$  CFT
- Gives a neat worldsheet understanding of moduli stabilization  
 ➔ generalization to fibrations of a K3 Gepner model over EH

# Gauge threshold corrections in heterotic compactifications

- Consider a  $K3 \times T^2$  heterotic compactification with  $\mathcal{N} = 2$  susy in four dimensions (without torsion)
- For an unbroken gauge factor  $(G_a)_{k_a} \subset G_{4d}$ , the one-string-loop correction is given by

(Lerche et al., 88)

$$\frac{4\pi^2}{g_a(\mu^2)} = \frac{k_a}{L} + \frac{b_a}{4} \log\left(\frac{M_s^2}{\mu^2}\right) + \frac{\Delta_a(M, \bar{M})}{4} \quad \text{with } L^{-1} = \Re S - \frac{1}{4} \Delta_{\text{UNIV}}$$

- Given  $n_{\mathbf{R}}$  hypermultiplets in the representation  $\mathbf{R}$  of  $G_a$ ,  
 $b_a = \sum_{\mathbf{R}} n_{\mathbf{R}} T_a(\mathbf{R}) - 2 T_a(\text{Adj}_a)$
- Moduli dependence through  $\Delta_a(M, \bar{M})$  (contributions from massive modes)
- Can be computed explicitly at the orbifold points  $T^2 \times T^4/\Gamma$ .

## Gauge threshold from K3 elliptic genus

- $b_a \log \left( \frac{M_s^2}{\mu^2} \right) + \Delta_a = -i \int_{\mathcal{F}} \frac{\Gamma_{2,2}(T,U)}{\bar{\eta}^2} \mathcal{I}_a \quad (\mathcal{F} : \text{fund. domain of } T^2)$
- With  $\mathcal{I}_a = \text{Tr}_{*,R}^{\text{K3}} \left( \left[ Q_a^2 - \frac{k_a}{4\pi\tau_2} \right] e^{i\pi \bar{J}_0^R} q^{L_0 - \frac{c}{24}} \bar{q}^{\bar{L}_0 - \frac{\bar{c}}{24}} e^{2i\pi\nu \cdot J_0} \right) \Big|_{\nu=0}$
- $Q_a^2$  : quadratic casimir of  $G_a$  and  $\bar{J}^R(\bar{z})$  : R-current of  $\mathcal{N} = 2$  SCA
- Elliptic genus independent of  $\bar{\tau}$  by worldsheet supersymmetry

➔ Universal form, obtained from demanding the absence of charged tachyons

$$\Lambda_a = \frac{k_a}{8} \int_{\mathcal{F}} \frac{d^2\tau}{\tau_2} \Gamma_{2,2}(T, U) \frac{D_{10}E_{10} - 528\eta^{24}}{20\eta^{24}} + \frac{b_a}{4} \int_{\mathcal{F}} \frac{d^2\tau}{\tau_2} \Gamma_{2,2}(T, U)$$

with the covariant derivative on modular forms  $D_r \Phi_r = \left( \frac{i}{\pi} \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} + \frac{r}{2\pi\tau_2} \right) \Phi_r$

✓ The last term is IR-divergent, signaling the presence of massless states (hypers and vectors)

# Gauge thresholds in local models - what does it compute?

## Physical considerations

- Threshold corrections in our local model of (warped  $K3$ )  $\times T^2$
- Massless gauge fields : *non-normalizable* operators  $\rightarrow$  frozen, do not contribute to the index
- In a genuine compactification, the local threshold expected to compute the contribution of hypers localized in a throat to the gauge couplings (gauge fields in the bulk).

## Technical issues

- String spectrum : *discrete representations* (localized states) and *continuous representations* (plane waves)
- Under  $S$ -transformation : (*discrete*)  $\rightarrow$  (*discrete*) + (*continuous*)
- Infinite volume canceling the fermionic zero-modes  $\rightarrow$  holomorphicity of the elliptic genus no longer holds
- More involved non-holomorphic contributions to the threshold: non-holomorphic contribution from non-localized states

# Elliptic genus : contribution from localized states

- Case  $\vec{\ell} = (1, \ell, 0^{14}) \rightarrow$  (twisted)  $\mathcal{N} = (2, 2)$  Liouville theory appear
- Localized states  $\leftrightarrow$  BPS representations of the  $c > 3$ ,  $\mathcal{N} = 2$  superconformal algebra (characters  $Ch_d(j, m; \tau, \nu) \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \end{bmatrix}$ )
- Contribution to the elliptic genus  $E(\tau, \nu)$  can be computed algebraically or by free field techniques

$$E_{loc}(\tau, \nu) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^{k/2} (\chi_{k-2}^{j-1} + \chi_{k-2}^{k/2-j}) \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}_{2\ell}} iCh_d(j, \ell(n + \frac{1}{2}); \tau, \nu) \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Red term rephrased in terms of level 1 Appell-Lerch sums :

$$q^{-\frac{(\ell-\frac{\ell+1}{2})^2}{k}} \frac{1}{\ell} \sum_{N=0}^{\ell-1} e^{-\frac{i\pi N}{\ell}} A_1 \left( \frac{1}{\ell} (\nu + (\frac{\ell+1}{2} - j)\tau) + N, \frac{\nu}{\tau} | \tau \right) \frac{i\vartheta_1(\tau, \nu)}{\eta^3}$$

## Appell-Lerch sums

- At level  $K$ ,  $A_K(u, v | \tau) = e^{i\pi K u} \sum_n (-)^{Kn} e^{2i\pi n v} \frac{q^{Kn(n+1)/2}}{1 - e^{2i\pi u} q^n}$
- 'Almost' modular form, e.g. :  

$$A_1\left(\frac{u}{\tau}, \frac{v}{\tau} \mid -\frac{1}{\tau}\right) = \tau e^{\pi i \frac{(2v-u)u}{\tau}} \left[ A_1(u, v | \tau) + \frac{1}{2} M(u - v | \tau) i\vartheta_1(v | \tau) \right]$$
- Mordell integral  $M(\nu | \tau) = \int dx q^{\frac{x^2}{2}} e^{-2i\pi nux} / \cosh(\pi x)$

## Maths intermede : Mock modular forms

- Mock modular forms  $\mathbb{M}_K : \{\tau | \tau_2 \geq 0\} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  of weight  $K$  almost transform as a modular forms of the same weight (Zwegers, 2002)
- To  $h \in \mathbb{M}_k$  one associates a shadow  $g = \mathcal{S}(h)$ , holomorphic modular form of weight  $2 - K$
- Shadow map  $\mathcal{S}$  ( $\mathbb{R}$ -linear) : such that  $\hat{h} = h + g^*$  is a modular form of weight  $K$ , with  $g^* = \left(\frac{i}{2}\right)^{K-1} \int_{-\bar{\tau}}^{i\infty} dz (z + \tau)^{-K} \overline{g(-\bar{\tau})}$ .
- If  $h$  holomorphic, non-hol. encoded in the shadow:  $\frac{\partial \hat{h}}{\partial \bar{\tau}} = \frac{1}{\tau_2^K} \overline{g(\tau)}$
- Trivial example:  $\hat{E}_2 = E_2 - \frac{3}{\pi\tau_2}$  (constant  $g$ )  $\rightarrow$  mod. form of weight 2

### Appell-Lerch sums

One gets non-holomorphic Jacobi forms of weight one

$$\hat{A}_1(u, v|\tau) = A_1(u, v|\tau) + \frac{i}{2} \vartheta_1(v|\tau) R(u - v|\tau)$$

$$\text{with } R(v|\tau) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z} + \frac{1}{2}} (-)^{n-1/2} [\text{sign}(n) - E((n + \nu_2/\tau_2)\sqrt{2\tau_2})] e^{-i\pi\nu n} q^{-\frac{n^2}{2}}$$

## Back to elliptic genus

- Adding the shadow to the Appell-Lerche sum, the modular-covariant elliptic genus of warped Eguchi-Hanson reads

$$\widehat{E}(\nu|\tau) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^{k/2} (\chi_{k-2}^{j-1} + \chi_{k-2}^{k/2-j}) q^{-\frac{1}{k}(j-\frac{\ell+1}{2})^2} \times \\
\times \frac{i}{\ell} \sum_{m=0}^{\ell-1} e^{-\pi i \frac{m}{\ell}} \widehat{A}_1\left(\frac{1}{\ell}(\nu + (\frac{\ell+1}{2} - j)\tau + m), \frac{\nu}{\ell} \middle| \tau\right) \frac{\vartheta_1(\nu|\tau)}{\eta(\tau)^3}.$$

- Elliptic genus of the  $\mathcal{N} = (2, 2)$  Liouville piece independently computed by modular-invariant regularization of the path integral *(Troost 2010)*
- The shadow is interpreted as the contribution from continuous representations (*i.e.* bulk modes)  $\rightarrow$  Non-BPS representations, but infinite volume of 'internal' target space cancels the fermionic zero-modes



## SO(28) threshold from elliptic genus

- In this example, unbroken gauge group  $SO(28) \times U(1)$ .
- $SO(28)$  threshold  $\rightarrow$  spectral flow of elliptic genus + 'gauge' factors

$$\Lambda_{SO(28)}^\ell = -\frac{1}{384} \int_{\mathcal{F}} \frac{d^2\tau}{\tau_2} \Gamma_{2,2}(T, U) \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^{k/2} \left( \chi_{k-2}^{j-1} + \chi_{k-2}^{k/2-j} \right) q^{-\frac{1}{k} \left( j - \frac{\ell+1}{2} \right)^2} \times$$

$$\times \sum_{(a,b) \neq (1,1)} \frac{i}{\eta} \sum_{m=0}^{\ell-1} \frac{1}{\eta} e^{\pi i \frac{m}{\ell}} \widehat{A}_1 \left( \left( \frac{\ell a+1}{2} - J \right) \frac{\tau}{\ell} + \frac{b-1}{2} + \frac{m}{\ell} \right), \frac{(a-1)\tau + (b-1)}{2} \Big|_{\tau} \times$$

$$\times \frac{1}{\eta^{20}} \left( \widehat{E}_2 + (-)^b \vartheta \left[ \begin{matrix} a+b+1 \\ a \end{matrix} \right]^4 - (-)^a \vartheta \left[ \begin{matrix} b \\ a+b+1 \end{matrix} \right]^4 \right) \vartheta \left[ \begin{matrix} a \\ b \end{matrix} \right]^{16}.$$

$\vec{\ell} = (1^2, 0^{14})$  case : enhanced  $\mathcal{N} = (4, 4)$

$$\Lambda_{SO(28)}^1 = \frac{1}{24} \Lambda(K3)(T, U) + \frac{1}{8} \int_{\mathcal{F}} \frac{d^2\tau}{\tau_2} \Gamma_{2,2}(T, U) \frac{1}{288} \frac{\widehat{F}(\widehat{E}_2 E_4 - E_6) E_4}{\eta^{21}}$$

- First term  $\rightarrow \frac{1}{24}$  of K3 threshold with instanton numbers (16, 8)
- Second term  $\rightarrow \widehat{F} = F + g^*$  with  $F$  encoding the effect of the flux and warping, and the shadow  $g^*$  the contribution of bulk modes

# Modular integral: unfolding technique

- Integration over the fundamental domain  $\mathcal{F}$  of a non-holomorphic modular form ?
- Fundamental domain  $\rightarrow$  to avoid overcounting due to  $PSL(2, \mathbb{Z})$  symmetry
- Idea: reduce the full sum over winding modes on  $T^2$  to a sum over *orbits* of  $PSL(2, \mathbb{Z})$

(Dixon, Kaplunovsky, Louis 91)

$$\Gamma_{2,2}(T, U) = \frac{T_2}{\tau_2} \sum_{n_1, n_2, m_1, m_2} \exp \left[ 2\pi i T \det A - \frac{\pi T_2}{\tau_2 U_2} \left| (1, U) A \begin{pmatrix} \tau \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \right|^2 \right],$$

where the matrix  $A$  encodes mappings of the worldsheet onto  $T^2$ :

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} n_1 & m_1 \\ n_2 & m_2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad n_i, m_i \in \mathbb{Z}, \quad i = 1, 2.$$

$\rightarrow$  the fundamental domain can be unfolded as we get the set of modular transformations mapping the fundamental domain inside the half-strip  $\mathcal{S}$  or the upper half-plane  $\mathbb{C}^+$

## 'Perturbative' corrections

- zero orbit ( $A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ ) and degenerate orbits ( $A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & j \\ 0 & p \end{pmatrix}$ )

$$-\frac{T_1}{8} \int_{\mathcal{F}} \frac{d^2\tau}{\tau_2^2} \hat{\mathcal{I}} - \frac{T_1}{8} \int_{\mathcal{S}} \frac{d^2\tau}{\tau_2^2} \sum_{(j,p) \neq (0,0)} e^{-\frac{\pi T_1}{\tau_2 U_1} |j + ipU|^2} \hat{\mathcal{I}}$$

- Localized modes contribution (with  $E(z, k) = \frac{1}{\zeta(2k)} \sum_{(j_1, j_2) \neq (0,0)} \frac{(\text{Im } z)^k}{|j_1 + j_2 z|^{2k}}$ ):

$$\Lambda_{loc}^{pert} = \frac{19\pi}{(24)^2} T_1 - \frac{1}{4} \left( \log |\eta(iU, 1)|^4 + \log (T_1 U_1 \mu^2) \right) - \frac{29\pi}{1440} \frac{E(iU, 2)}{T_1}$$

- Involved term from bulk modes ( $d_i$ 's Fourier coeffs of Eisenstein series)

$$\Lambda_{bulk}^{pert} = \frac{1}{96} \left( -\frac{d_1}{2} \left( \log |\eta(iU, 1)|^4 + \log (T_1 U_1 \mu^2) \right) - \frac{\pi d_2}{30} \frac{E(iU, 2)}{T_1} - \right.$$

$$\left. \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-)^n \left[ \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} (-)^m \frac{\pi^m}{m!} \frac{(\sqrt{2}(n+\frac{1}{2}))^{2m+1}}{m+\frac{1}{2}} T_1^{m+\frac{1}{2}} \left( d_1 \binom{n(n+1)}{2} E^* \left( iU, m + \frac{1}{2} \right) - \frac{3d_2 \binom{n(n+1)}{2}}{\pi T_1} E^* \left( iU, m - \frac{1}{2} \right) \right) \right] \right]$$

✓ These contributions are mapped to tree-level and perturbative contributions in the type I dual theory


## Non-perturbative corrections (worldsheet instantons)

- non-degenerate orbits (the rest)  $\rightarrow$  worldsheet instantons on  $T^2$

$$\int_{\mathbb{C}_+} \frac{d^2\tau}{\tau_2^2} \sum_{k>j\geq 0} \sum_{p\neq 0} e^{-2\pi k p T_1 - \frac{\pi T_1}{\tau_2 U_1} |k\tau - j - ipU|^2} \hat{\mathcal{I}}$$

- Localized states contribution (with  $\square = (U_2)^2 \partial_U \bar{\partial}_U$ )

$$\Lambda_{loc}^{non-pert} = -\frac{1}{4} \sum_{k>j\geq 0} \sum_{p\neq 0} \frac{1}{kp} e^{-2\pi k p T} \left[ 1 + \frac{1}{kp T_1} \square \right] \hat{\mathcal{I}}_{loc.}(U)$$

- $\mathcal{U} = (j + iU)/k$  is the 'induced' Kähler modulus of the torus wrapped by the instanton 
- Similar type as in compact models (i.e. for  $T^4/\mathbb{Z}_2$ ) (Bachas et al., 97)
- More unusual contribution from bulk modes  $\rightarrow$  all inverse powers of  $T_1$  despite  $\mathcal{N} = 2$  supersymmetry

- In the type I dual these are mapped to D-instantons
- More interesting in  $T^2 \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_6 \xrightarrow{\pi} EH$ : worldsheet instantons can only wrap a finite number of times due to topology change

# Conclusions

- We studied local models of flux heterotic compactifications to four dimensions, with line bundles
- Remarkably these throats admit weakly coupled solvable worldsheet CFT descriptions, valid *even* for large curvatures
- Computation of threshold corrections → uses the machinery of mock modular forms, also very useful in supersymmetric black holes microstates counting

## Future directions

- Description of non-Abelian bundles
- More about conifold solutions: new branches, one-loop corrections, ...
- Rational points of compact models → gauged linear sigma-model techniques *(Adams, Lapan 2008)*
- Holographic understanding →  $\mathcal{N} = 2$  LSTs with compact Coulomb branches, confining  $\mathcal{N} = 1$  theories, ...

## Warped Conifold I : supergravity ansatz

- Local model of heterotic  $\mathcal{N} = 1$  compactification in 4d  
 ↳ **conifold singularity**  
 hypersurface  $z_1^2 + z_2^2 + z_3^2 + z_4^2 = 0$  in  $\mathbb{C}^4$
- Singular cone over a  $T^{1,1} \sim (SU(2) \times SU(2))/U(1)$  base :  
 $S^1$  fibration over  $S^2 \times S^2$  ↳  $S^3 \times S^2$  topology
- Singularity regularized with a finite  $S^2$  (blow-up) or a finite  $S^3$  (deformation)  
 ↳ the latter case is used in type IIB (Klebanov-Strassler) as the compact 3-cycle can support RR 3-form flux corresponding to fractional D3-branes
- In heterotic needs instead a 2 or 4-cycle (by Hodge duality) to support magnetic flux.
- We will consider the latter, which is topologically possible for the orbifold *conifold*/ $\mathbb{Z}_2$

## Heterotic supergravity ansatz

$$ds^2 = dx^\mu dx_\mu + \frac{3}{2} H(r) \left[ \frac{dr^2}{f^2(r)} + \frac{r^2}{6} (d\theta_1^2 + \sin^2 \theta_1 d\phi_1^2 + d\theta_2^2 + \sin^2 \theta_2 d\phi_2^2) + \frac{r^2}{9} f(r)^2 (d\psi + \cos \theta_1 d\phi_1 + \cos \theta_2 d\phi_2)^2 \right]$$

$$\mathcal{H}_{[3]} = \frac{\alpha' k}{6} g_1(r)^2 (\Omega_1 + \Omega_2) \wedge (d\psi + \cos \theta_1 d\phi_1 + \cos \theta_2 d\phi_2)$$

- The  $S^1$  fiber is deformed by the squashing factor  $f(r) \leq 1$   
➔ non-Kähler warped conifold with torsion
- Unlike in type II the  $\mathbb{R}^{3,1}$  space-time is unwarped (in string frame)
- We will find below a 'bolt' for some  $r = a$  ( $f(a) = 0$ ), as in Eguchi-Hanson space  
➔ conical singularity removed by the orbifold  $\psi \sim \psi + 2\pi$

# Susy, Bianchi and HYM

- The **SUSY calibration conditions** give the system
 
$$\begin{cases} f^2 H' = -2\alpha' k g_1^2 / r^3 \\ r^3 H f f' + 3r^2 H (f^2 - 1) + \alpha' k g_1^2 = 0 \end{cases}$$
- The **HYM equations** are satisfied with a line bundle  $(\vec{p}, \vec{q}$  gives embedding in the Cartan  $\vec{T}$ ):

## Gauge bundle

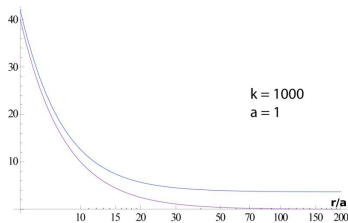
$$\mathcal{A} = \frac{1}{2} \vec{p} \cdot \vec{T} (\cos \theta_1 d\phi_1 - \cos \theta_2 d\phi_2) + \vec{q} \cdot \vec{T} \left(\frac{a}{r}\right)^4 (d\psi + \cos \theta_1 d\phi_1 + \cos \theta_2 d\phi_2)$$

- Second magnetic field ( $\vec{q}$ ) responsible for the resolution of the conifold singularity  $\rightarrow$  free parameter  $a$  (blow-up parameter)
- In the large charges limit ( $\vec{p}^2, \vec{q}^2 \gg 1$ ) the  $\mathcal{R}^2$  term in **Bianchi identity** is negligible (checked 'on-shell')
- $d\mathcal{H} = \alpha' \text{Tr} \mathcal{F}^2$   $\rightarrow g_1^2(r) = \frac{3}{4} (1 - (\frac{a}{r})^4)$  and  $k = \vec{p}^2 = 4\vec{q}^2$

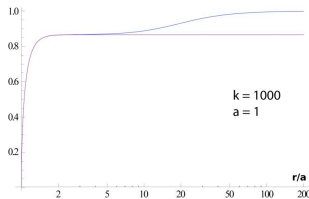


# Numerical solution

- One can solve numerically the susy equations for  $f(r)$  and  $H(r)$
- Smooth and weakly coupled everywhere
- For  $r \rightarrow \infty$  one finds the usual Ricci-flat conifold and constant dilaton, however with non-zero NSNS and magnetic charges
- For  $r \rightarrow a$ , the  $S^1$  fiber degenerates (bolt)
  - ➔ one finds a non-Ricci flat conifold resolved by a 4-cycle



**Conformal factor  $H(r)$**



**Resolution function  $f(r)$**

*both numerical (blue) and near-horizon (purple) solutions are plotted*

# Analytical solution in the double-scaling limit

- String coupling diverges in the blow-down limit (point-like instanton)
  - ➔ One can define a double-scaling limit  $g_s \rightarrow 0$  with  $g_s \alpha' / a^2$  fixed
- It isolates the near-bolt region  $a^2 \leq r^2 \ll \alpha' k$  from the asymptotically Ricci-flat region
- In this regime, one can solve analytically the susy equations

## Double-scaling limit of the warped orbifolded deformed conifold

$$\begin{aligned}
 ds^2 &= \frac{\alpha' k}{2r^2} \left[ \frac{dr^2}{1 - \frac{a^8}{r^8}} + \frac{r^2}{8} \left( d\theta_2^2 + \sin^2 \theta_1 d\phi_1^2 + d\theta_2^2 + \sin^2 \theta_2 d\phi_2^2 \right) \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + \frac{r^2}{16} \left( 1 - \frac{a^8}{r^8} \right) (d\psi + \cos \theta_1 d\phi_1 + \cos \theta_2 d\phi_2)^2 \right] \\
 e^{2\Phi} &= e^{2\Phi_0} \frac{(\alpha' k)^2}{r^4} \\
 \mathcal{A} &= \left[ \frac{1}{2} (\cos \theta_1 d\phi_1 - \cos \theta_2 d\phi_2) \vec{p} + \left( \frac{a}{r} \right)^4 (d\psi + \cos \theta_1 d\phi_1 + \cos \theta_2 d\phi_2) \vec{q} \right] \cdot \vec{H} \\
 \mathcal{B}_{[2]} &= \frac{\alpha' k}{8} (\cos \theta_1 d\phi_1 + \cos \theta_2 d\phi_2) \wedge d\psi
 \end{aligned}$$

➔ Smooth weakly coupled background without sources (as  $r \geq a$ )

## Worksheet CFT in the blow-down limit

- In the blow-down limit one gets a linear dilaton  $\times T^{1,1}$ 
  - ➔ Non-Einstein  $[SU(2)^2]/U(1)$  coset w. torsion and  $\&$  line bundle
- Obtained in the worldsheet CFT as a  $U(1)_L \backslash SU(2)_k \times SU(2)_k$  asymmetrically gauged  $\mathcal{N} = (1, 0)$  WZW model (left action)
- Classical 'anomaly' of the gauging cancelled by an action in the  $\widehat{SO(32)}_1$  or  $(\widehat{E}_8 \times \widehat{E}_8)_1$  anti-holomorphic CFT
- Specified by a 16-dim vector of charges  $\vec{p}$ , with  $k = \vec{p}^2$ 
  - ➔ in space-time, Abelian magnetic field
- Possible to add an orbifold acting as  $(g_1(z, \bar{z}), g_2(z, \bar{z})) \rightarrow (-g_1(z, \bar{z}), -g_2(z, \bar{z}))$

# Worksheet CFT in the double-scaling limit

- The heterotic orbifolded warped conifold resolved by a 4-cycle has a worldsheet CFT *also* in the double scaling limit

- Complicated asymmetrically gauged WZW model

$$\frac{SL(2)_{k/2} \times U(1) \backslash SU(2)_k \times SU(2)_k}{U(1)_L \times U(1)_R}$$

- Needs gauging in  $\widehat{G}_1$  specified by  $\vec{q}$ , with  $k = \vec{p}^2 = 4\vec{q}^2 - \underbrace{4}_{\alpha' \text{ corr.}}$

## Lowest order background fields

- Asymmetric coset  $\rightarrow$  careful bosonization is needed (Johnson)
- Integrate out classically worldsheet gauge fields  $(A, \bar{A}) \rightarrow \Sigma$ -model corresponding to SUGRA solution
- 4-fermion term  $\frac{2}{\cosh \rho} (\psi^1 \psi^2 + \psi^3 \psi^4) \ell_n \bar{\psi}^{2n-1} \bar{\psi}^{2n} \rightarrow$  Abelian bundle

One can extract from the gauged WZW model the background fields to all orders in  $\alpha'$   $\rightarrow$  exact solution to Bianchi !

# Algebraic solution of the CFT

- Worksheet CFT solved by standard coset construction  $\rightarrow$  full one-loop partition function known
- Left  $\mathcal{N} = 2$  SCA  $\rightarrow$   $\mathcal{N} = 1$  4d SUSY in spacetime as expected

## Spectrum

- Discrete  $SL(2)$  representations (localized bound states)  
 $\rightarrow$  massive  $U(1)$  gauge field along  $\vec{q} \cdot \vec{T}$  and set of massless 4d chiral multiplets localized at the bolt
- Unbroken gauge bosons and graviton  $\rightarrow$  non-normalizable massless modes and continuum of massive modes

Localized states: interacting d.o.f. of the blow-down theory (kind of Little String Theory) ?

# Worksheet instantons and Liouville potentials

- So far, the  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  orbifold of  $T^{1,1}$  put 'by hand' in the CFT  $\rightarrow$  is there an analogue of no-conical singularity condition of sugra ?
- Condition on the bundle  $c_1(V) \in H^2(2\mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow$  role in worksheet CFT ?
- $\frac{SL(2)}{U(1)}$  corrected by worksheet non-perturbative effects (Fateev, Zamolodchikov)

## Liouville-like potentials for Abelian bundles

- In our heterotic coset, the dynamically generated  $\mathcal{N} = (2, 0)$  Liouville potential reads  $\mu_L \int (\psi^\rho + \psi^3) e^{-\frac{\sqrt{q^2-4}}{2}(\rho+iY_L^3) - \frac{i}{2}\vec{q}\cdot\vec{X}_R} + c.c.$   
( $\partial X_R^n = \tilde{\psi}^{2n-1} \tilde{\psi}^{2n}$  is the bosonized Cartan)
- Belongs to the twisted sector of the  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  orbifold
- Orbifold and (right) GSO invariant only if  $c_1(V) \in H^2(2\mathbb{Z})$  :  
 Explicitly  $\sum_\ell (p_\ell \pm q_\ell) \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$

Remark : for  $Spin(32)/\mathbb{Z}_2$  both bundles with or without vector structure are possible