

Linear Sigma Models and Heterotic Moduli Spaces

Ilarion V. Melnikov

Albert Einstein Institute
Max Planck Institute for Gravitational Physics
Golm, Germany

based on work with M. Kreuzer, J. McOrist, and M.R. Plesser

Motivation

A future textbook problem

Given a perturbative heterotic string background with $d = 4$, $N = 1$ super-Poincaré invariance, determine

- 1 moduli space & massless spectrum;
- 2 Yukawa coupling dependence on moduli fields;
- 3 the singular locus of CFT.

Extra credit

Apply your results to

- issues in moduli stabilization;
- non-perturbative effects in heterotic string theory;
- quantum geometry.

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Some special cases:

- special points in moduli space admit exact (0,2) SCFT description;
- $\mathcal{E} = T_M \implies$ (2,2) world-sheet SUSY & mirror symmetry;
- If (2,2) theory admits gauged linear sigma model description, can study *the (0,2) GLSM subspace of deformations*.

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A guiding question:

how does mirror symmetry extend to (0,2) GLSM deformations?

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- 2 Yukawa couplings

- ▶ topological heterotic rings [Adams, Basu+Sethi 2003, Adams, Distler + Ernebjerg 2005]
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4 conjecture for a $(0,2)$ mirror map [IVM + Plesser 2010]

- ▶ suggested by form of algebraic coordinates
- ▶ $(M, \mathcal{E}) \leftrightarrow (M^\circ, \mathcal{E}^\circ)$
- ▶ a check: map exchanges singular loci

The GLSM: a $d = 2$ (2,2) SUSY gauge theory [Witten 1993]

- gauge group $G = U(1)^r \times$ finite abelian group
- charged chiral matter multiplets $Z_0, Z_\rho, \rho = 1, \dots, n$
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holomorphic parameters:

- FI+ θ -angle terms in twisted superpotential $T_a \equiv e^{-2\pi r^a + i\theta^a}$
- coefficients A_m in chiral superpotential $W(Z) = Z_0 F(Z)$,

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$Q_\rho^a, \Pi_{m\rho}$ determined by combinatorics of a *reflexive polytope*:

- $\Pi_{m\rho}$: rank $d = n - r$ integral $u \times n$ matrix with entries ≥ -1 ;
- $\{Q_\rho^1, \dots, Q_\rho^r\}$: integral basis for kernel of $\Pi_{m\rho}$.

The (2,2) GLSM & geometry

Combinatorics of $\Pi_{m\rho}, Q_\rho^a \rightarrow$ geometry:

- Z_ρ are projective coordinates for d -dimensional compact toric variety $V = \{\mathbb{C}^n - \Delta\}/G_{\mathbb{C}}$;
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The GLSM parameters

- T_a : Kähler deformations of $V \longrightarrow$ Kähler deformations of M
- A_m : complex structure deformations of M

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The Mirror Map for toric/polynomial deformations

$$\underbrace{\Pi, Q; T_a, \hat{T}_{\hat{a}}}_{M \subset V} \text{ is mirror to } \underbrace{\Pi^T, \hat{Q}; \hat{T}_{\hat{a}}, T_a}_{M^\circ \subset V^\circ}$$

Redundant $T_a, \widehat{T}_{\hat{a}}$ from polytopes

No additional redundancy iff polytope is **reflexively plain**.

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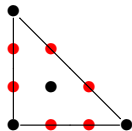
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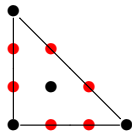
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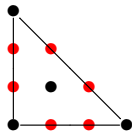
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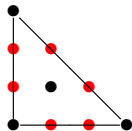
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- ▶ $d = 4$: there are 6,677,743 reflexively plain pairs and 5,518 self-dual plain polytopes.

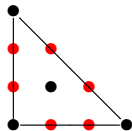
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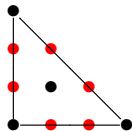
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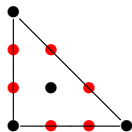
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- **(0,2) deformations take simple form in reflexively plain models.**

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Counting $(0,2)$ GLSM deformations [Kreuzer, McOrist, IVM + Plesser, 2010]

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Counting (0,2) GLSM deformations [Kreuzer, McOrist, IVM + Plesser, 2010]

Combinatorics determines the number of parameters and redefinitions.

- Parameters: T_a , A_m and coefficients in $E^{\alpha\rho}$, J_ρ
 $\#(E^{\alpha\rho}) = \#(\text{monomials of same charge as } Z_\rho)$
 $\#(J_\rho) = \#(\text{monomials of same charge as } \partial F / \partial Z_\rho)$
- SUSY constraint eliminates some of these
- As do redefinitions of Z_ρ , Γ^ρ and S_α
- Result: $N(M)$ —the number of GLSM deformations
- Check: $N(M)$ matches geometric computations in examples.

A (0,2) GLSM mirror map for pair M, M° ?

$$N(M) \stackrel{?}{=} N(M^\circ)$$

In general, no. If model is reflexively plain, yes!

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Remaining parameters fixed by SUSY constraint up to redefinitions

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- these singular loci are exchanged by the mirror map.

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Questions

- Are $A/2$ and $B/2$ correlators exchanged by the mirror map?
- How to incorporate additional E-deformations?
- What is the fate of the non-GLSM bundle deformations?
- What is the space-time physics of the singularities?
- Can the ideas be generalized to $(0,2)$ models without $(2,2)$ locus?